

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Up, up and away
In Part 2 of Saturday's Great British Summer series, Ronald Faux discovers the delights of ballooning.

Key to Keynes
Robert Skidelsky considers the economic theories of John Maynard Keynes on the centenary of his birth.

US tests on cruise suspended

The US has temporarily suspended tests on its air-launched cruise missile to examine problems which developed during two recent launches. The Pentagon said deployment policy would not be affected.

Meanwhile Nato defence ministers meeting in Brussels reaffirmed their "twin-track" decision to deploy American nuclear weapons and simultaneously negotiate arms control with the Soviet Union.

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Big North Sea investment

A consortium led by Marathon Oil has committed itself to spending up to £1,700m on opening up its second North Sea field. The project will secure 5,000 jobs in the oil industry.

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Piggott's double

Lester Piggott back in the winner's enclosure on Be My Native in yesterday's Coronation Cup at Epsom, following his resounding Derby victory on Temoso. Michael Scely's tribute

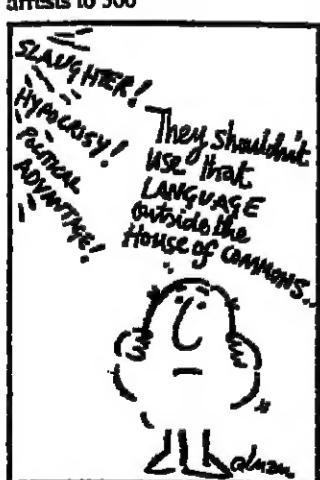
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Mikardo arrest

Mr Ian Mikardo, Labour candidate for Bow and Poplar, has been charged with obstructing the highway outside Bow Road Underground station, where he was canvassing yesterday in a Mini car.

200 arrested

Further 200 people were arrested on the third day of the blockade of the US Air Force base at Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire, bringing the total of arrests to 500.



The Times

We regret that, because of production difficulties, some editions of *The Times* today have appeared with a curtailed service of news.

Leader, page 15
Letters: On nuclear war, from Professor J. H. Humphrey and others; election issues, from Mr G. Watson, and others; betting shops, from Miss L. Clayton
Leading articles: Falklands in the election; The Women's Institute Features, pages 12-14
How will the Pope change Poland this time? John Pardoe's election column: Spectrum: A chop off the old block. Friday Page: Divorce, remarriage and the church; What MPs think of women; Medical Briefing Obituary, page 16
Prince Charles of Belgium, Anna Seghers

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Steel jubilant at six-point gain for SDP-Liberals

- Conservative and Labour anxiety深ened as latest opinion polls showed increased support for the SDP-Liberals Alliance
- Mr Foot and Mr Benn joined forces to attack the opinion polls, the press and the Alliance.
- Labour campaign managers were alarmed, at Mr Healey's accusation over the Falklands that Mrs Thatcher "glories in slaughter"
- Mrs Sara Jones, the widow of Col H. Jones, VC, said Mr Healey's conduct was "despicable and cheap"

Tory and Labour worry deepens as Alliance gains

By Anthony Bevins and George Clark

Senior Conservative and Labour sources are concerned that the opinion polls will be showing a tie between Labour and the Social Democratic Party-Liberals Alliance before polling takes place next Thursday.

The latest opinion polls are showing a clear pattern in favour of the Alliance. Thames Television's Harris poll, issued last night, showed the Conservatives on 46 per cent, Labour at 28 per cent and the Alliance on 24 per cent. Other polls, by Gallup for *The Daily Telegraph* and Marpals for *The Guardian*, also show an increase in Alliance support.

Those results, with fieldwork carried out last Tuesday and Wednesday, gave the Alliance a six-point advance, compared with a 2 per cent all for the Conservatives, and a 5 per cent fall for Labour, compared with last week's poll for Thames Television.

If that trend continued, and all polls published in the last week show a steady swing towards the Alliance, with a greater proportion of votes moving from Labour than from the Conservatives then it is

entirely possible that the Alliance could have overtaken Labour by polling day.

Labour leaders are worried that if that position was reached, then the party's fragile credibility could collapse completely.

Certainly the Alliance has proved that it is capable of musterling popular support in the 30 per cent region. On present form they would move

to that point at Labour's expense.

But there is equally strong anxiety among Conservative Party managers. They fear that if the Alliance does run second in last-minute eve-of-poll polls, while the Conservatives maintain a lead of more than 15 per cent, then marginal, Conservative and the floating voters might be tempted to damp down a landslide Conservative victory by plumping for the Alliance alternative.

Those fears were last night reflected by Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, who said in Luxembourg: "These last days are very nerve-racking. It still could crumble. Anything could happen - and probably will."

At their morning press conference yesterday, Labour leaders had tried to dismiss the Alliance's prospects.

Claims made by the Alliance that they were ousting Labour in terms of electoral popularity were based on polls that lacked integrity, Mr Roy Hattersley, the Shadow Home Secretary, said.

Continued on back page, col 7

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Continued on back page, col 7

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ELECTION JUNE 83

Profiles of SDP leaders

EEC withdrawal clash

N Sea oil controversy

easy for me to win. Not so much because of the irony of the position but because of boundary changes," she said. "It is a tough seat."

Tough it may be but impossible it is not. Since the SDP presidents became their MP, Crosby residents have been impressed by the way Mrs Williams has thrown herself into constituency affairs, always willing, not only to listen to grievances, but to take action to put them right.

A recent example was when a parents' association petitioned her for school playing fields. Mrs Williams wrote to all 300 parents individually and then persuaded the local authority to provide the playing field.

Malcolm Thornton, the Conservative candidate, a former Mersey river pilot has also been busy in the hustings. He dismisses the SDP victory after 36 years of Conservative rule, as nothing more than a temporary hiccup.

Like Mrs Williams, her main rival is a seasoned campaigner. His strength lies in the fact that, not only is he home-grown, a Merseysider and former local politician as leader of Wirral council, but he has already proved his parliamentary ability as Private Secretary to Mr Patrick Jenkins, Secretary of State for Industry.

In November, 1981, she scored an astonishing victory in the constituency, taking what many colleagues believed was an impossible gamble and then trouncing her Conservative rival from a traditional middle-class Conservative stronghold.

A 19,000 Conservative majority was turned into a 5,289 SDP lead by the largest movement of voters in the British Isles. But the ensuing 19 months have not been kind to Mrs Williams. Thatcherite policies which alienated Conservative supporters in the country's biggest mainland constituency during the by-election are winning back huge support.

Boundary changes have meant the loss of a chunk of Labour voters willing to turn SDP to keep the Conservatives out. Uncommitted supporters of the right are concerned at the Alliance's poor poll showings and reverting to their former Conservative allegiances to block Labour hopes of victory.

Crosby is Liverpool's stock-broker belt, less than 10 miles from the city centre but socially a million miles removed from Boys of the Blackstuff Scouse image.

It is predominantly middle-class, has 31.5 per cent owner-occupancy and a generous selection of golf courses.

Mrs Williams, a gutsy political fighter, knows she has a Herculean task on her hands if she is to avoid a second successive general election defeat. "I make no bones about it, this will be a difficult constituency."

Ian Smith

Anxious SDP eyes throughout the country will be on Crosby when the polling booths close on June 9 to see if Mrs Williams' battle cry becomes her swan song.

Ian Bradley

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Alliance surge may be too late to save the Gang of Four

Although the latest opinion polls have revealed a dramatic upsurge of support for the Alliance, the "Gang of Four" who set up the SDP face a tough fight to be returned to Parliament (Richard Evans writes).

Mr Roy Jenkins, who is defending Glasgow, Hillhead, and more particularly Mrs Shirley Williams, fighting to hold Crosby, achieved by-election victories in 1981 at the height of the SDP's popularity, since when the party's opinion poll rating has slumped. Dr David Owen, MP for Plymouth, Devonport since 1974, has an uphill task in defending what has become a marginal seat in a Tory town. But the gang member with the toughest ordeal appears to

Mr Bill Rodgers, who had a massive majority while Labour MP for Stockton, North, but now has to persuade voters in prime Labour heartland to follow his example and switch allegiance to the SDP. Mr Ron Pollard, the political betting guru at Ladbrokes, yesterday offered a wider of odds which reflect the difficulties facing the gang. The chances of all four emerging victorious on June 9 are 14-1 against, while the odds against every member of the gang losing are 6-1.

More interesting, the odds on each member's individual chances of survival are much closer. Mr Jenkins and Dr Owen are both 5-4 on, while Mrs Williams and Mr Rodgers are 6-4 against.



Roy Jenkins:
Open contest

From outside Mr Roy Jenkins' campaign headquarters in Glasgow, Hillhead, 14 Labour posters are visible, six for the Scottish National Party, one for the Conservative Party, one for the SDP/Liberal Alliance and none for the Conservatives.

Labour outsider Robert Waring, a psychiatric social worker aged 32, and Merseyside County councillor is relying on the spreading Liverpool disease of unemployment for the bulk of his votes. "From the outside Crosby looks like leafy suburbia but almost one in five are out of work," he says.

Labour lost its deposit in the by-election and whether along leafy lane or not, Mr Waring's journey towards victory is uphill all the way.

Peter Hussey, the Ecology candidate figures largely in the outcome, not because he stands a chance of being elected, but because any switch of the 1,500 votes he polled in the 1979 election could decide the outcome in this knife-edged constituency.

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Nuclear arms in Europe

Nato backs twin-track policy of negotiations and missile deployment

From Frederick Bonnard, Brussels

Nato's defence ministers reaffirmed their strong belief in the December 1979 "twin-track decision" of deploying the American medium-range Cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Europe and, at the same time, attempting to reach arms control agreement with the Soviet Union.

They emphasized that the security of the alliance depended on the continued presence of American troops in Europe and the US strategic nuclear commitment, as well as on the defence and deterrent capabilities of the European member nations.

There were some reservations, introducing a discordant note in addition to the usual Greek reservation on allied support for the US negotiating position in Geneva.

Mr Hans Engel, the Danish Defence Minister, spoke of a motion critical of stationing missiles in this country passed by the opposition in the Danish Parliament a few days ago.

In a somewhat ambiguous statement, Spain also reserved its position pending a review regarding its participation in the alliance.

The main purpose of the meeting was to issue a ministerial guidance which serves as the main political directive for Nato defence planning and gives directions for the preparation of the Nato force goals for the period of 1985-1990.

Underlining the growing disparity between Nato and Warsaw Pact forces, the ministers decided that greater financial resources would have to be provided and agreed that their

per cent target for annual increase in defence expenditure was still the best solution.

However, they emphasized that member nations would have to take steps to make their existing forces more effective. This could be achieved by modernization, higher readiness and "sustainability" (the ability to go on fighting for longer periods), by the implementation of the rapid reinforcement plan, better air defence and the provision of additional reserve units.

New technology offered a "significant potential" in improving conventional forces and progress was seen in the direction of "coordination" national efforts in ensuring the exploration of emerging technologies.

With a clear reference to the United States, the ministers urged member nations to take account of Nato defence planning initiatives for making "opportunities in transatlantic cooperation".

In an earlier briefing, Herr Manfred Werner, the West German Defence Minister, said that he had made it clear to Mr Caspar Weinberger, his American opposite number, that he was all for such cooperation but Bonn was already producing some of this equipment, and technology and production should be on a 50-50 basis.

Reference was made to the previously contentious issue of the degree of assistance to be given by one member country to another, especially the United States, which was able to send forces to deal with

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developments beyond the Nato area which "might threaten the vital interests of members of the alliance."

According to a senior Nato official, the Europeans and the United States were now fairly close to an agreement on general principles. Concrete results could only be obtained on a case-by-case basis, he said.

Dr Joseph Luns, Nato's Secretary-General, pointed out at yesterday's meeting that the danger to Europe was not limited to the Soviet SS20 missile, as some of the shorter-range Soviet nuclear weapons could also hit the whole of Europe. The SS22, for instance, is known to have a range of over 550 miles, with ranges of 300 to 400 miles for others.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, confirmed that Soviet battlefield nuclear weapons had been stationed in Eastern Europe for a long time, but he maintained that they would be included in arms control negotiations.

Nato officials added that a high-level group of senior officials was studying ways of reducing these types of weapons prior to submitting a report for the autumn meeting of Nato's nuclear planning group.

Dr Luns noted that the strength of the alliance lay in technological advance. The ministers agreed that this enabled them to make "substantial improvements in the conventional defence of the alliance and decided to coordinate national efforts to ensure the exploitation of new technologies.

In Ayacucho, heartland of the leftist guerrilla movement, 350 miles south

A Peruvian policeman inspects the identification papers of passengers travelling from Lima into the Andes at a roadblock outside Matucana. Checks have been stepped up since a state of emergency was declared on Monday.

Police said yesterday that guerrillas had set off dynamite blasts in various parts of the country, AP reports.

In Ayacucho, heartland of the leftist guerrilla movement, 350 miles south

east of Lima, the guerrillas took advantage of a 90-minute power blackout caused by an earlier attack to set fire to the Government Cultural Institute. The fire was put out quickly and there was no injuries.

In Huaraz, 195 miles north of the capital, a shop and the house of a policeman were bombed. No one was hurt.

Police in Chimbote, 250 miles north

of Lima, said eight suspected terrorists were captured at the town of Acos

after six explosions, in which no one was hurt.

Police sources in Lima, meanwhile, indicated that the wave of arrests since President Fernando Belaunde declared the emergency suspending civil rights was slowing down.

But the socialist newspaper, *El Diario*, reported more than a hundred people had been detained for questioning on Wednesday in 11 cities and towns outside the capital.

Papandreou ignores protests

From Mario Medina, Athens

Unruffled by protest strikes sweeping Greece, and the hostile slogans hurled by thousands of demonstrators massed outside Parliament, the Socialist Government is pressing ahead with its controversial legislation imposing severe restrictions on public sector strikes.

Parliament's Socialist majority was expected to obey the party whip and vote in approval of the Bill when the heated emergency debate ended.

The Bill authorizes the "socialization" of state-controlled banks, enterprises and public utilities, by introducing "active" worker participation, and also makes strikes illegal unless they are approved by an absolute majority of union membership in a secret ballot.

The law, clearly designed to curb the power of the pro-Soviet Greek Communist Party (KKE), remains a mystery. One school of thought suggests that

the aim is to emasculate the KKE's reaction in case of agreement with the Americans about the continued operation of US military bases in Greece.

Another view was vital because of a new set of austerity measures planned by the Government to curb the vast deficits run by the public enterprises and to bridge the widening gap in the balance of payments with new loans from Western banks.

The moot point just now is whether or not the KKE will forsake the benefits of the truce with the Government and ask its trade unions to defy the law with illegal strikes.

The conservative New Democracy, the main opposition party, which finds the KKE's strange bedfellows in its opposition to this Bill, stated that it would not incite workers to defy the law.

Crop project threatened by dropouts

From David Watts, Singapore

The Commonwealth Development Corporation is considering new investment in plantation development in the southern Philippines island of Mindanao, but the plans are already being opposed by the Roman Catholic Church.

The proposed new plantation would be about 40 miles from the site of the Guthrie-National Development Company of the Philippines plantation, in which the CDC is to invest \$5.4m.

A loan agreement is expected to be signed within a month but has been delayed by the presence of men of the "Lost Command" under Lieutenant-Colonel Carlos Lademora who are being used as guards on the plantations.

Church leaders have criticized the plans because they fear that the type of development proposed is inappropriate. They also believe the peasant farmers involved on the project will be coerced by Colonel Lademora's men seeking a cut of whatever payment the corporation makes for their land.

Although Colonel Lademora's men will be replaced on the plantation by new guards trained for the purpose, there is little likelihood that his influence will be reduced either on the Guthrie plantation at San Francisco in Agusan del Sur or on the proposed new plantations at Loreto and La Paz.

Buddhism is reborn

Prayer flags fly again over Tibet

From Christopher Wren

Lhasa (NYT) - Bands of pilgrims bearing fruit jars filled with yak butter tallow to the old monasteries and then spoon it into the flickering lamps that illuminate the great Buddhas. The pilgrims press their foreheads to the relics and sip holy water poured from a teapot by a monk in a rust-red robe.

The most pious of them prostrate themselves in the dust of the street to pray before they dare to enter the Jokhang temple, the oldest and holiest shrine of Mahayana Buddhism.

Four years after the Chinese authorities lifted their ban on religious worship, Buddhism has been reborn in Tibet. Prayer flags flap from poles on mountain passes, from the few gnarled trees, even from the necks of laden yaks as tassellings.

Communist Party members and government workers must still be atheists, a Tibetan party member said. But other Tibetans may again practice the faith that has been synonymous with their culture.

Asked how many Tibetans

Indonesia expels two Russians

Jakarta - Indonesia has asked two Soviet diplomats known to be engaged in espionage activities to leave the country when their visas expire, security officials said. Our Correspondent writes.

The move, seen here as low-key in comparison to the expulsion of a deputy military attaché last year, came after the regional magazine *Asia Week* claimed its local correspondent had been offered money by a senior member of the Soviet Embassy in exchange for regular reports.

Neither the officials nor the Indonesian local press identifies the two diplomats by name. Diplomatic observers pointed out that Mr Mochtar Kusumarmadja, the Indonesian Foreign Minister is due to visit the Soviet Union before the end of the year.

Calvi associate arrested

Milan (Reuters) - Signor Bruno Tassan Din, the former director of Italy's widely respected newspaper, *Corriere della Sera*, was arrested yesterday and charged with foreign exchange violations and complicity in last year's collapse of the Milan-based Banco Ambrosiano.

The arrest followed inquiries into loans of several million dollars alleged to have been channelled by the late Roberto Calvi, the bank's managing director, to Signor Tassan Din through foreign associates.

Cricket fund nears target

Kingston (Reuters) - A Jamaican fund-raising drive to dissuade West Indian cricketers from playing in South Africa has almost reached its target of £100,000. Mr Edward Seaga, the Prime Minister, said.

The West Indies Cricket Board of Control asked regional governments to help to finance three-year contracts for about 22 players to carry out coaching and other promotional activities in the region.

Mercy mission

Dr Andrew Doig, the former Moderator of the Church of Scotland, flew to Malawi yesterday to plead with President Hastings Banda for the lives of Mr Orton Chirwa and his wife Vera, who are due to be executed for treason next Thursday.

Slick seen

Bahrain (Reuters) - An oil slick over half a mile in diameter has been spotted near Saudi Arabia's eastern coast. It is part of the huge slick from shattered Iranian wells in the Gulf war zone, and is likely soon to affect the Saudi industrial port of Jubail.

Chess clash

Grandmaster Victor Korchnoi (left) and the Soviet prodigy Gary Kasparov will meet in the world chess championship in the US later this year. The other semifinal between Zoltan Ribli of Hungary and Vassili Savonov of the Soviet Union will meet in the United Arab Emirates.

Murder appeal

Johannesburg - An appeal by Mrs Maureen Smith, a British citizen sentenced to death in South Africa for the murder of her husband, will be heard by the appeal court in Bloemfontein on August 16.

Bombing truce

Paris (Reuters) - Corsican separatists have said they will observe a truce in their bombing campaign when President Mitterrand visits the Mediterranean island in 10 days time.

Lost GIs hunt

Hanoi (AFP) - A delegation of four US military experts arrived in Hanoi for a third round of discussions on the American servicemen missing in action during the Vietnam war.

Suspects held

Rome (AP) - Police have arrested 17 suspected leftist terrorists and sympathizers near Rome and Naples in a new crackdown. Thirteen were picked up in southern Naples.

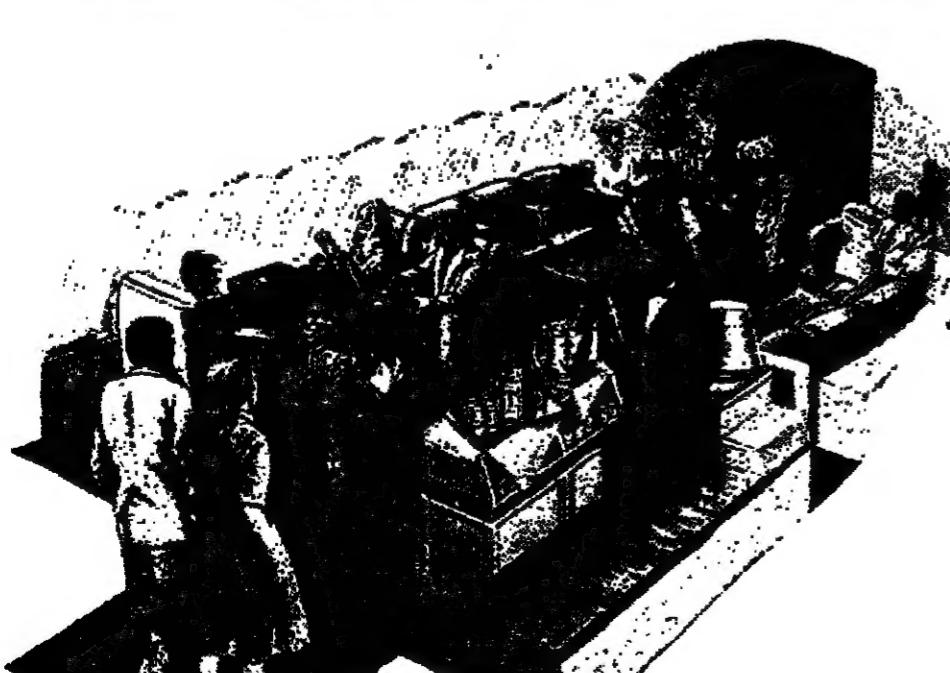
Holiday cheer

Paris (AFP) - The French Government will send 300 special financial inspectors to seaside and mountain resorts this summer to protect holidaymakers from being overcharged.

Correction

In yesterday's report from Warsaw the reference to a party report by Professor Hieronim Kubasiak should have read: "It is now clear that the report will not be published."

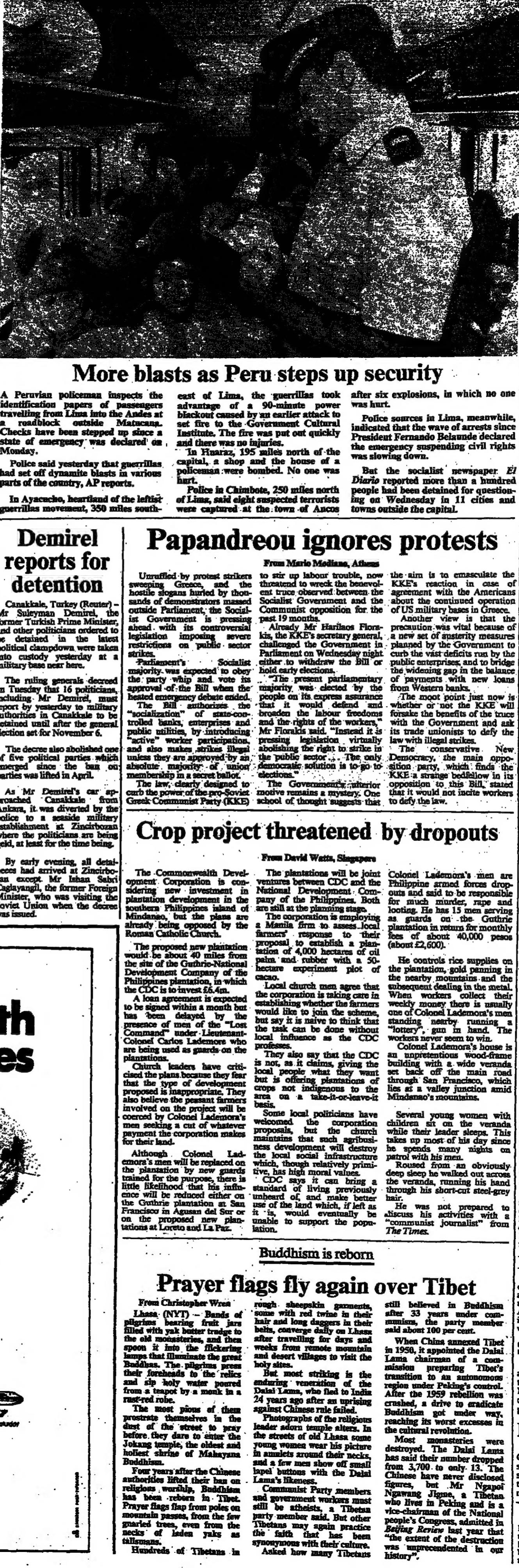
Welcome to Cameroon, with Cameroon Airlines



In Cameroon, hospitality is a tradition. For us at Cameroon Airlines, "Welcome on Board" are not just words of welcome. Everything is done for you to make sure you will enjoy your flight. Besides, we are the only airline offering our first class passengers between Cameroon and Europe the unbeatable comfort of our luxurious upper deck lounge. The undisputed comfort of the 747, in addition to the kind and careful attention of our cabin crews are your guarantee of an even more pleasant flight.

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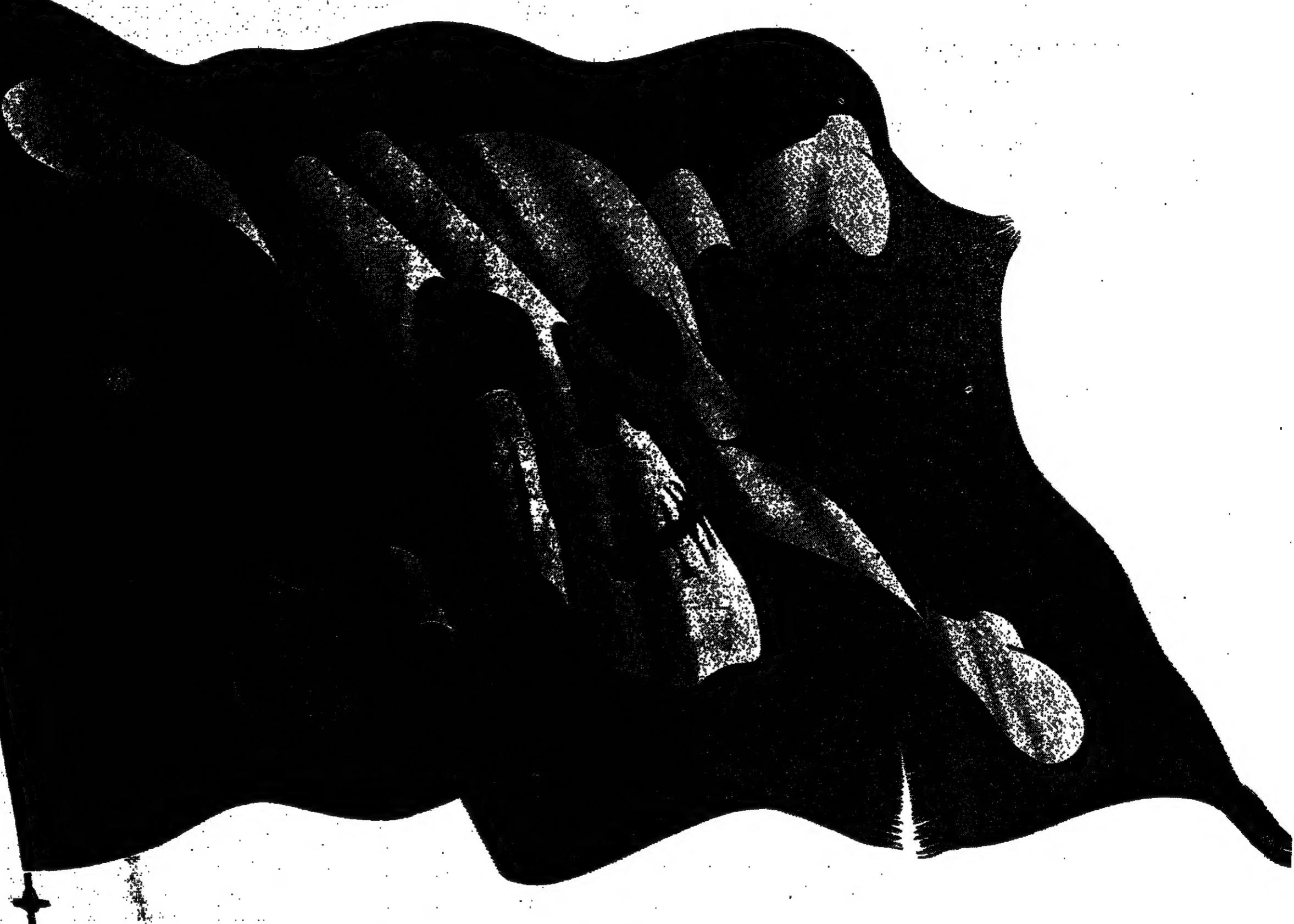
Welcome you to Cameroon and the rest of Africa.



This advertisement is published by J. Henry Schroder Wag & Co. Limited on behalf of The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company.

الآن من الامان

Stand by to repel boarders.



If you are a P&O stockholder, by now you should have received the formal offer document from Trafalgar House.

Their arguments seem plausible. The homework detailed. Their promises appear seductively slick.

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We, the directors of P&O, are preparing a full and detailed response. This will be sent to you. Meanwhile let us reiterate that this opportunistic bid is against the national interest.

Against your interest as a stockholder. And against the interests of our employees.

And we refute the suggestion that the two Companies would be stronger together. They are a bad fit in practically every respect.

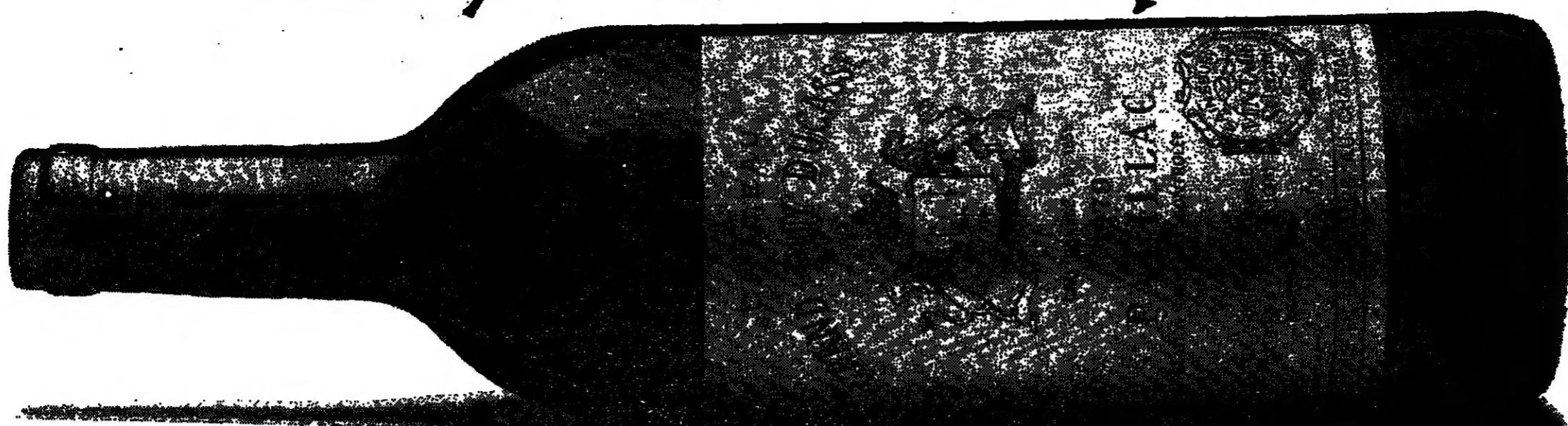
Do not sign any documents from Trafalgar House.

Do not accept the offer.

P&O

Sainsbury's Vintage Selection.

It reads like the wine list in a good restaurant. Until you come to the prices.



If you're a wine buff who's been buffeted by rising prices you'll welcome our Vintage Selection.

You'll find the quality familiar and the prices, quite often, nostalgic.

All twenty-nine wines have been tasted and tested by our wine buyers, who have been working, if you can call it work, on this selection for 12 months. (Over 600 wines were considered before the final selection was made.)

All of the wines are ready to drink now though some are suitable for laying down.

Many of them come with established reputations like the Puligny Montrachet or Château Grand Puy Ducasse.

Some are more unusual, like the delicious dessert wine Moulin Touchais from the Loire - or our dry red wine from Portugal called Quinta Da Bacalhôa.

Many are virtually exclusive to Sainsbury's and all bear our Vintage Seal on the label.

You'll find the complete list in 20 of our largest stores and a further 130 stores will carry a good selection.

We hope you'll enjoy reading about the wines below and that you'll be tempted to turn a wine list into something even more satisfying.

A shopping list:

1. Château Grand Puy Ducasse 1979 Pauillac

A classic Claret from one of the most important communes in the Médoc. Full bodied with good fruit and tannin this wine will develop over the next three or four years into a fine wine of distinction. £7.45.

2. Château Jean-Fauré 1979 Grand Cru St. Émilion.

Like all St. Émiliens this wine will drink younger than the great growth clarets and is already soft and fruity. The 1979 is delightfully drinkable and offers, along with elegant medium weight, a bouquet with a hint of violets. £5.45.



3. Château de Poncier 1981 Fleurie.

The true charm and distinction of one of the most delicate of the Beaujolais. Granite soil and the Gamay grape have combined in one of the more southerly Beaujolais villages to produce a wine which is soft, fruity and delicately perfumed. Superb with cold meats or cheese - but many would say with anything. £4.35.

4. Château Tourteau Chollet 1980 Graves.

Graves, a huge area of wine production to the south of Bordeaux is famed for its rich, slightly spicy red wines. Small proprietors abound in the area, producing wines which are firm when young and pay for keeping. Here is a pleasant fruity example of medium weight which will go happily with most meats or cheese. £3.60.

5. Château du Bousquet 1981 Côtes de Bourg.

Less well known than the Médocs which lie opposite, the wines of the Côtes de Bourg offer excellent value for money. The best of the slopes, near the river, include the vines from which this splendid example is formed. Although it will keep, it can be enjoyed now without hesitation. £3.20.

6. Gevrey Chambertin 1978.

Amongst the richest and most enduring of all the great Burgundies, this full-bodied and powerful wine, from the celebrated village on the slopes of the Côte de Nuits, will be enjoyed with the richer meats - a pheasant would be ideal. £8.95.

7. St. Amour 1980.

Produced on the granite soil of the most northerly of the nine nominated "cru" villages which produce the best of the Beaujolais. St. Amour is fruity and fresh. £3.75.

8. Domaine de Palestor 1979 - Châteauneuf du Pape.

Châteauneuf du Pape is recognised the world over as the finest of the southern Rhônes. Dark, strong and long-lived. This is a fine example from the rocky vineyard of one of the leading growers and two or three years more bottle age will improve it. £5.25. (Coming shortly)

9. Gigondas 1981.

Like its more famous neighbour Châteauneuf du Pape, Gigondas is a deep, hearty, robust red wine taking its character from the Grenache grapes which predominate in the blend. It will hold its own with game, roasts, casseroles and all cheese dishes. £4.35.

10. Château la Barie - Rhône 1982.

This is the product of a vineyard which was totally replanted 20 years ago. (It has grown in reputation as a result) The presence of Syrah and Grenache in the blend gives the slight peppery sensation on the palate which is so characteristic of a Rhône wine. £2.99.



11. Château Barreyres 1979 Haut-Médoc.

The Médoc, on the west bank of the river, is the most important red wine district of Bordeaux. Here, from just north of the Margaux, is an excellent fruity claret of medium weight, which has been made with great care and would even improve with a few years bottle age. £3.55.

12. Domaine du Colombier 1982 Chinon.

Though less well-known there are some fine fresh light reds from the gravel soils of the Loire. This one has a distinct fruitiness and pleasant acidity. It is best drunk young and will happily accept a degree of chilling. £3.75.

13. Château de Goungazaud 1980 - Minervois.

From the hilly country of the Languedoc-Roussillon but with more of the Cabernet Sauvignon grape than is usual. This makes for a distinctive medium-bodied wine of charm - robust enough for most meats and cheeses. £4.99. (Magnum)

14. Clos de La Mouchère 1980 - Puligny Montrachet.

Another great classic dry French white wine. Produced to the north of Meursault and lacking some of its softness it is, perhaps, the ultimate accompaniment to oysters but enhances any fish or white meat. £8.45.

15. Domaine De La Bizolière 1982 Savennières.

The white Anjou wines to the western end of the Loire Valley are characteristically dry and full-bodied - some say with the crispness of new apples. Here is a fine example, best drunk young and served chilled, it is slightly flowery with good acidity. £3.60.



16. Meursault Moillard 1980.

Meursault's Pinot Chardonnay grapes provide some of the world's greatest white wines. Rich, smooth and dry, but mellow. This is a fine example, soft and full, which will mature and improve for two or three years. £6.95.

17. Sancerre Les Pierres 1982.

This was a good year in the Loire, where the Sauvignon grapes grown on limestone produce elegant dry white wines. This fresh and fruity wine from Verdigny Commune is best drunk young and slightly chilled. £4.65.

18. Moulin Touchais 1964 - Anjou.

The valley of the Loire shelters the Chenin Blanc vines from which are made some exceptional white wines. In the limestone "caves" at Doué la Fontaine lies a huge selection of some of France's best kept wine secrets. Moulin Touchais is one. The perfect dessert wine with plenty of fruit and a balanced sweetness best revealed when chilled. £5.75.

19. Château Terre du Moulin 1982 Entre-deux-Mers.

Between the "two seas" of the Dordogne and the Garonne lies a vast area of wine production. The whites of this area are allowed the "appellation". Here is a crisp, fruity dry white wine from a grower with an established reputation for consistent quality. £2.75.

20. Clos St Georges 1981 Graves Supérieures.

Long before Graves was known for the red wines with which it is now most associated, it had a high reputation for sweet white wines. Clos St Georges is found on the borders of Barsac. It has depth, style and length, which come through impressively on the palate. £2.99.

21. Château de Beaulieu 1980 Côteaux Du Layon.

Beaulieu is one of only six communes in this sheltered area to the south of the Loire to be granted the "appellation". This is an exceptional medium sweet white wine with lots of fruit and an acidity of considerable length which give it great style and depth. At its best lightly chilled with fresh fruit. £2.80.

22. Muscat de Beaumes - Dr-Venise.

This is a naturally sweet white wine from the southern end of the Rhône Valley. The sun has ample time to develop the sugar and add a delicate perfume and flavour. A dessert wine of great distinction. £4.25.

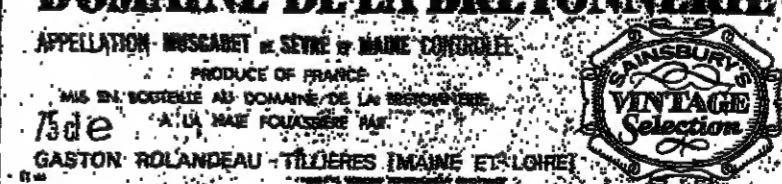
23. Ueriger Würzgarten Auslese 1975 Moselle.

The Riesling wines of Würzgarten are sheltered by mountains and this fragrant and spicy sweet wine is produced from selected (auslese) grapes. Serve chilled with desserts or as a special aperitif. £5.99.

MUSCADER DE SÈVRE ET MAINES SUR LIE



DOMAINE DE LA BRETONNERIE



24. Domaine De La Brettonnerie 1982, Muscadet De Sèvre et Maine Sur Lie. This Muscadet is named after two of the Loire's great tributaries. It has the added fruit and body which results from the grapes remaining longer on the vines ("sur lie"). Ideal with fish - especially shellfish. A light, dry and refreshing white wine. £2.99.

25. Kiedricher Heiligenstock Kabinett 1982 Rheingau.

From the pride of Germany's wine land come some splendid and white wines. This one is no exception. Elegant and well-balanced it is a distinguished accompaniment to most white meat and fish. £4.20.

26. Deidesheimer Herrgottskeller Kabinett 1981 Rheinhpfalz.

Wines from the Palatinate are rich, well flavoured, and lively and Deidesheimer is regarded as one of the best villages. This is a light medium dry white wine and versatile enough for fish, poultry or a chilled aperitif. £4.10.

27. Apetloner Gewürztraminer Beerenauslese 1981.

Specially selected and overripe grapes from the Gewürztraminer vines at Apetlon in the Burgenland of Austria produce a wine of concentrated sweetness and depth to compare with the best of the Sauternes. Lightly chilled it makes a superb accompaniment to fruit or dessert. £4.95. (Coming shortly)

28. Amarone Pasqua 1978.

This is a Recioto della Valpolicella - not to be confused with the more popular wine of the latter name. Only the grapes from the "ear" of the vine which have begun to dry in the sun are used. The result is a dry red wine of high quality and full flavour. £3.95. (Coming shortly)

29. Quinta da Bacalhôa 1981.

Portuguese red wines have been a rather well-kept secret for too long. This one produced from Cabernet Sauvignon grapes, matured in chestnut casks, is similar to a dry, red Bordeaux. Like all Portuguese reds, it will improve with keeping. £3.65.

Good wine costs less at Sainsbury's.

Recall of ambassador opens way for shift in Soviet policy

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The recall to Moscow of Mr Piotr Abrasimov, the Soviet Ambassador in East Berlin, marks the end of the career of one of the country's most important and influential envoys abroad who has played a key role in formulating Soviet policy towards Germany, East and West, for the past 20 years.

Mr Abrasimov served two lengthy spells in East Berlin, from 1962 to 1971; and then again from 1975. In between he was briefly Soviet Ambassador in Paris, where his overbearing manner made a fit good impression.

In East Berlin he behaved virtually as a Soviet pro-consul, wielding enormous power behind the scenes and ensuring the Kremlin's views were decisive in determining East German policies, while loudly trumpeting the full independence and sovereignty of the East German state.

He began his first incumbency in the huge embassy in Unter Den Linden a year after the erection of the Berlin Wall, at a time when Moscow was trying to confine the application of the four-power status of Berlin to the western sectors only. He ended it with the drawing up of the four-power agreement in 1971, in the tough and draw-out preparation of which he played a vital role.

The agreement was a main accomplishment of détente,

leading to a marked easing of international tension and a large measure of normalization for West Berlin.

As a senior member of the Communist Party's Central Committee, he was a skilled and hard-line representative of Soviet policy. He met regularly the Bonn ambassadors of Britain, France and the United States on all questions concerning Berlin.

In 1966, he also initiated regular contacts with the Chief Burghauptmeister of West Berlin, then Herr Willy Brandt, and still meets regularly Herr Richard von Weizsäcker, the present mayor.

For the past three years he has been Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in East Berlin, a

position he has used to advance Soviet policies in the name of all fellow diplomats.

His removal to head Intourist is a clear demotion. It could be simple retirement on grounds of age — he is now 71 — and in keeping with Mr Andropov's wish to shake up the senior party apparatus. Or it could suggest the Kremlin in considering a fresh approach to the German question, in light of the new government in Bonn and the steadily developing links between East and West Germany.

Mr Abrasimov always rejected any tentative proposals for a final settlement of the German question with rough abruptness.

● MOSCOW: There was puzzlement yesterday in Moscow over the reported dismissal of Mr Abrasimov, Richard Owen writes.

His replacement was announced by Moscow radio, but not by Tass, which normally carries announcements of appointments and dismissals. The move was not mentioned in any Soviet newspaper yesterday.

Officials were unable to shed light on the affair, and some were apparently taken by surprise. Sources said the downfall of Mr Abrasimov was a personal demotion, and was not part of a change in Soviet policy toward East and West Germany.

Russian probe for Venus

Moscow (Reuter) — The Soviet Union yesterday launched an unmanned spacecraft towards Venus designed to carry out research on the atmosphere and surface of the planet. Tass reported.

The probe, Venus 15, will reach Venus in early October and go into orbit. The reference to surface research suggested the craft, like its most recent predecessors, was carrying a smaller probe which would land on the planet.

The Venus 13 and 14 probes, which reached Venus within a few days of each other in March last year, landed small modules which sent back photographs and data from analysis of rock samples before burning up.

Modest Cabinet reshuffle by Malaysian Premier

From M. G. G. Pillai, Kuala Lumpur

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Malaysian Prime Minister, yesterday reshuffled his Cabinet by bringing in four new ministers and appointing five new deputy ministers and four parliamentary secretaries.

No dramatic changes were noted, and only one minister was moved to another portfolio when Tan Sri Chong Hon Nyan went from Health to Transport.

Given Dr Mahathir's almost Thatcherite approach to government, many had expected a more dramatic reshuffle, but he opted to go along with the traditional evolutionary changes in the administration.

The changes were caused by the resignation of four Cabinet

ministers and deputy ministers.

The full cabinet is as follows:

Prime Minister: Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad. Deputy Prime Minister and Home Affairs: Datuk Mohamad Yusof. Works and Utama Selangor: Tan Sri Yusof. Welfare Affairs: Tan Sri General Shafie. Social Services: Datuk Abduh Abdul Ghani.

Trade and Industry: Tan Sri Ahmad Razak. Transport: Tan Sri Chong Hon Nyan. Health: Tan Sri Chong Hon Nyan. Science, Agriculture, Datuk Abdul Majid Othman. Energy, Telecommunications and Posts: Datuk Lee Alaggio. Public Enterprises: Datuk Paul Tiong Hiew. Finance and Economic Planning: Datuk Haji Abdul Razak. Health: Datuk Abdul Samad. Culture, Tourism, Sports and Youth: Datuk Siti Hasmah. Home Affairs: Datuk Ahmad Sabaddi and Datuk James George.

Law and Justice: Datuk Melati Koo. Home Affairs: Datuk Abdul Samad. Education, Technology and Environment: Datuk Sharifah Wong. Health: Datuk Chin Hon Nyien. Federal Territories: Datuk Sharif Abdul Samad. Culture, Tourism, Sports and Youth: Datuk Siti Hasmah. Home Affairs: Datuk Ahmad Sabaddi and Datuk James George.

The resignations of four Cabinet

Letter from Berlin

A bird's-eye view of the infamous Wall



Beyond the markers the River Havel and the Wannsee are deserted.

Fourteen thousand elite East German border troops permanently man the Wall. We saw their barracks in the distance and also several large Soviet bases. Here and there a detachment was engaged on strengthening the already formidable fortified frontier.

Hovering over Spandau, I saw the famous brick prison, which seemed to be in a state of virtual collapse. In a little white hut in the grounds its sole inmate, Rudolf Hess, now 89, sits in the sun on his half-hour walks. I did not spot him, and was not allowed to take photographs ("unlawful regulations," I was told).

Farther north we checked in at Tegel airport in the French

sector. The British do most of the Wall patrols on behalf of all three allies. The French do not have helicopters in Berlin. No West German is allowed in the skies over Berlin, so we had the air to ourselves.

In the industrial north we passed factories that back right on to the Wall, railway tracks that run between several sets of walls and a long inner wall that for some reason cuts off East Berlin from the border Wall — probably to make escapes harder, though there have been over 186,000 since the Wall went up in 1961. In the first 20 years there were also 3,082 East Germans arrested at the Wall, and 71 people killed on the border.

Wheeling inwards over the high-rise flats where West

Berlin's Turks live, we came to the gold-painted historic victory column from where the road leads to the Brandenburg Gate. Beyond it lies East Berlin.

In the inner city the Wall is harder to spot as it zigzags between buildings. The death strip is narrower but the watch towers more frequent. We passed former stations and rotting railway sidings, abandoned by their East German owners. The pulsing life on Kurfürstendamm with its lines of cars seemed in curious contrast to the silent borders.

Away to the south-west the cars streamed out from one of the exit points through the Wall to the Autobahn to West Germany.

Michael Binyon

Prosecutor demands life term for ex-SS man

Berlin (Reuter) — Herr Horst Busse, the East German state prosecutor, yesterday demanded life imprisonment for Heinz Barth, aged 62, a former SS officer on trial in East Berlin on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Herr Barth sat motionless in court on the last day of the trial as Herr Busse said that he had taken part in the "cold-blooded execution of Nazi extermination policies".

Herr Barth has admitted involvement in killings in Czechoslovakia and at Oradour-sur-Glane, France, in the second World War. Sentence is due next Thursday.

"The seriousness of the crimes and the weight of personal responsibility demand that the accused be excluded for ever from socialist society. I propose that Herr Barth be sentenced to life imprisonment and be deprived for ever of his civil rights," Herr Busse concluded in a 30-minute summary of the evidence.

On Monday Herr Barth wept in court as he admitted killing by machine gun fire 20 men in a garage at Oradour, among the 642 villagers massacred on June 10, 1944, in reprisal for the capture of a Nazi major.

He also admitted shooting, or standing guard as others shot 92 partisans in Lidice, Czechoslovakia, in 1942. Herr Busse said that the crimes were "excerpts from a ghastly whole, part of a terrible inferno, components of a bestial terror system". Herr Barth's assertion that he was obeying orders was no defence.

He had volunteered for death squads at Lidice, where he was a member of a police battalion. At Oradour, when he was an SS lieutenant, he was one of those who had given the orders for the encircling and destruction of the village. Herr Busse went on.

He added that Herr Barth had avoided detection after the war because he had falsified his service record and used a 1939 civilian identity card.

He returned to Gransen, where he was born, north of Berlin, after the war and was a textiles buyer for the state retailing concern Konsum until his arrest in 1981. He was detained by analysis of wartime records.

"Barth well knew that these killings after the defeat of the fascists would be punished", Ken Busse said.

One prosecutor used his summary to attack West Germany for failing to try many suspected war criminals.

THE LUXURIOUS NEW SENATOR. THE CHOSEN CAR FOR THE CHOSEN FEW.

For a select few, Vauxhall-Opel have created the distinctly elegant new Senator. A car engineered and equipped to a high standard, for those to whom high standards are a way of life. Under the bonnet, there is either a 2.5 or 3.0 litre Bosch fuel-injected six cylinder engine, linked in each case to a transmission renowned for its smooth change. The Senator CD offers air conditioning as standard for

the occasional summer, and heated front seats for the rest of the year. However, all the Senators have the tasteful distinction of sumptuous seats, deep carpeting, a steel sliding sunroof and rear time-delayed courtesy lights, that allow your companions time to get comfortable. For yourself, you'll find the driver's seat is height adjustable; the 4-spoke steering wheel is tiltable; the door mirrors are heated and electrically operated, and Bach Concertos sound superb through the stereo cassette player with its 4 speakers. Your local Vauxhall-Opel dealer will be pleased to show you one of the new Senators. Have your personal assistant make an appointment.

SENATOR

VAUXHALL-OPEL
BETTER BY DESIGN.

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Odeon, Marble Arch;
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The Hunger (18)

ABC, Shaftesbury Avenue

Jacques Becker season
National Film Theatre

The *Star Wars* films are not - like the *Grease* Is, the *Hallowe'en* Is, and *Rocky* Is - sequels and spin-offs, but constitute a continuing serial. George Lucas, who remains the guiding hand as producer and principal writer, whenever the director may be (this time it is Richard Marquand), plans a cycle of nine episodes in all. *Star Wars*, *The Empire Strikes Back* and *Return of the Jedi* represent episodes 4, 5 and 6. In the old days of course serials came out weekly; but these three parts were released respectively in 1977, 1980 and 1983. At this rate, of three-year intervals, not all of us will still be around to see how things turn out in chapter nine. Even the youngest patrons of the original *Star Wars* will be taking their own children to see a middle-aged Luke Skywalker and his rusting robots.

Lucas's declared intention had been to return to the style and naive pleasures of the weekly exploits of Flash Gordon and Captain Marvel; and true to the authentic method, the individual episodes tend to be reprises with variations rather than actual progressions of a story. Luke and his chums are still doing battle with the evil usurper Emperor and his creature Darth Vader; and the donouement is the inevitable frenzied battle in space. This time the Emperor and Darth Vader are definitely conquered. The serial is planned in three triptych cycles; for the others (again true to the conventions of the form) new villains will be found.

In approach and style there is some change for the worse, though it is unlikely to affect the preprogrammed appeal of the series. Special effects have more and more taken over from the human interest. The credits for technical work are now endless, and the effects become ever more marvellous in every department, whether the creation of space hardware, grotesque primeval monsters or cute and cuddly Disneyesque pets.

The invented creatures are a lot



Dragon monster Jabba in *Return of the Jedi*; he might have been invented by Tenniel for an X-rated Alice

more enjoyable than the humans who are always strictly two-dimensional, and whose relationships are now sketchier than ever. There is certainly more fun to be had with the denizens of the demonic disco in *Star Wars* who now form the court of a huge dragon monster called Jabba. With his enormous, scaly, toad-like head, sitting grossly greedy and fatuous, meting out death and torture, gobbling up his smaller subjects and toying lecherously with captive maidens, he might have been invented by Tenniel for an X-rated Alice.

The film remains a cunning and prodigal synthesis of every kind of popular myth. There are vague memories of classical legend in the basic story of a brother who risks falling in love with the sister whose identity he does not know, and who discovers in the same moment that the man whom it is his destiny to kill

is in fact his own father. The mystical sources of The Force, Darth Vader's atonement, and Luke's cries to his father in the extremities of torture have echoes of Christian lore. There are once again nods to the Hitlerian pageantry of *Triumph of the Will*. Vader's funeral pyre looks even like a small homage to *Gandhi*.

The conflicts intermittently take on the style of Western or of Sword-and-Sorcery. The bad people are in their appearance amalgams of all the things we hate: Nazis, traffic cops, Mao suits. The latest addition to the good people is a tribe of teddy bears who sometimes carry on like Robin Hood and his Merry Men and at others like comic cannibals from strip cartoons. Aimed with deadly calculation at the child in all us, *Return of the Jedi* estimates our mental age - no doubt quite accurately - at around six and a half.

At the moment of high euphoria for

British cinema, poor Tony Scott exemplifies the casualties of the bad times (before Channel Four) when even the most promising directors had small chance of exercising their craft. More than a decade ago Scott made an excellent and original low-budget film, financed by the British Film Institute, called *Loving Memory*. The years of waiting between then and *The Hunger* have been spent at the treadmill of commercials; and his new film goes to show the taint which too much of that can lay on talent and vision. Technically faultless, the film at every moment has the trashy chic of an extended commercial for cosmetics or soft furnishings, though more often it seems to be selling cigarettes.

Not that the screenplay gives any encouragement to do better. Adapted from a novel by Whitney Strieber which is clearly to be avoided, it is a fairly incoherent tale of mysticism,

magic and horror. Catherine Deneuve is a beautiful vampire who has ensured millennia of immortality by constantly appeasing The Hunger for blood. Susan Sarandon is a doctor with a more scientific interest in longevity and aging. David Bowie's rather brief appearance as lover-victim of Deneuve with a bad case of rapid aging provides the film's most consoling moments. The make-up men and Bowie's clever mime make quite a feat out of the aging; and the film almost rises to a touch of humour with the scene of Bowie growing several hundred years older in a doctor's waiting room.

It is still very small compensation for all the other flashy silliness, and the effortful erotica of a nude lesbian-vampire encounter between Deneuve and Sarandon - both of whom are actresses far too attractive to have this wished upon them.

The National Film Theatre's French year moves on this month to a complete retrospective of the 13 films completed by Jacques Becker (1906-1960) consistently made films that were and remain enjoyable, and made his own strong contribution to the prestige and popularity of the French cinema in the post-war decade. He almost became an actor: he played in Jean Renoir's *Boudu sauve des eaux*, and King Vidor wanted to take him off to Hollywood and make a star of him.

Instead Becker stayed on to be assistant to Renoir and Renoir's example undoubtedly helped shape his own appreciation of character, of milieu, of the interaction of groups. Even trifles like a comedy vehicle of Fernandel, *Aï Baba*, have their own style; and films that look like trifles - *Fernandel*, *Aï Baba* - have their own style; and films that look like trifles - *Rue de L'Estrapade* - often intimate unsuspended depths. *Rue de L'Estrapade* was the third and least successful of the marital comedies by which Becker is today best remembered.

The NFT season is also a chance to experience again Becker's uniquely evocative period reconstructions when the belle époque of *Les Aventures de Arsène Lupin*, the world of the Apaches and their women in *Casque d'Or*, the eve of the twenties in *Montparnasse 19* or Becker's own contemporary France in *Rendez-vous décalé*. Not to be missed, above all, is Becker's last film, *Le Trou*, the story of an attempted prison break which is a virtuous exercise in suspense, created withinunities of time and place.

David Robinson

Television

Norman Mailer at Sixty (BBC 2) has been compared to Mount Rushmore, but really he looks more like Fred Flintstone. He is the primeval innocent, as grieved when the rocks are thrown at him but strong enough to throw them straight back. Last night's documentary took as its occasion the publication of his most recent novel *Ancient Evenings*, which was described as a "magnificent opus of old Egypt"; since it seemed to consist entirely of sodomy, violence, orgies and gang rape it might just as well have been a magnificient opus of contemporary New York.

With his combination of naivety and self-projection, vulnerability and combative ness, Mailer himself is very much part of his own culture. There he was, on a bulletin board announcing coming attractions, alongside Bodytone, Dancercise and Karate. Some writers work steadily inward, like wireworms of the spirit, but Mailer keeps on moving outward, engaging great quantities of American life and then spitting them out with affectionate distaste. Frank Delaney, who interviewed him for the programme, has the ability to ask easy questions which are in fact hard to answer: as a result, although this was a "celebratory" study of the man, it was

Peter Ackroyd

Concert

BBC SO/Ashkenazy
Festival Hall

movement, it was difficult to imagine that any more could be said. His is playing that stretches from top to toe whether he is crouching over to seek the harmonic heart of his double-stopping or leaning out towards his audience to share the confidence of the tiniest sequential patterning.

After a remarkably dark, searching cadenza, the slow movement was played, wisely, for lighter relief, the violin svete, the windband almost intrusive.

There was little chance for Mr Kremer to steal the light in the Double Concerto. The playing of his compatriot, Mischa Maisky, can also be larger than life, as his recently recorded Franck Sonata shows. It was also evident in both his broad grandswell in the Andante, and the big heart he drew from his Finale solo. He can find, too, a velvet-gloved sotto voce and chamber-musical finesse.

Hilary Finch

Dance

The Seasons
Coliseum

The first new production of Festival Ballet's London season was given on Wednesday night: Glazunov's *The Seasons* in a production by Ronald Hynd that was first shown by the Houston Ballet in 1980. The music is glorious stuff for dancing, a cascade of rich melodies in sumptuous, sugary orchestrations, as sinfully irresistible as the best pralines.

I find it surprising that Hynd and his designer, Peter Doherty, thought this score suited to anything other than tutus and the most splendid of pure classic display, such as Ashton provided when he used some of the tunes in *Birthday Offering*. Instead, they have gone for all-over tutus and choreography after another.

The star of the show, as the Spirit of the Seasons (whatever that may be) is Koen Onzia, a recent recruit from Antwerp. A short, slight young man, he whizzes and zooms round the stage at every break in the succession of other dancers.

John Percival

that is often all over the floor, with the dancers sitting, lying or rolling. Perhaps they thought to offset the music's sweetness, instead of exploiting it.

With the orchestra in fair form under Graham Bond, however, Glazunov carries the day, and the public is obviously delighted to see so many and so much of the dancers. The ostensible theme is not taken very seriously, and I imagine it never was, from Petipa's 1900 staging onwards. The idea is simply to have an excuse to bring on one group of dancers after another.

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Elizabeth MacLennan, "gently implacable"

Vertical take-off
Men Should Weep
Royal, Stratford East

wealth of really funny lines, and the fact that it avoids all censoriousness towards a group of characters who are incessantly judging each other.

If ever there were a claustrophobic box set around them, no trace of it survives in the free air of this production. On Geoff Rose's stage, the Morrisons occupy a ramshackle downstage area, backed by a grimy concrete skyline haunted by spying neighbours, snogging couples, and late-night rowdies; while members of the family double as a chorus of gossips and other figures from the outside.

With the exception of one small boy, age is presented entirely through acting, with the handsome young Jo Cameron Brown emitting bird-like squawks as the sensible granny, clamping boneless gums on any passing sweet and clasping her pension book in palsied talons.

The aim, superbly achieved, is to dispel emotional intensity, and divert attention from these people as individuals to the conditions in which they are compelled to live. And instead of the plot of naturalistic narrative there are side-lit tableaux, explosions of brilliant energy, bold groupings (as where all the women line up down-stage for cake-nibbling courtship confessions), and moments of vertical take-off into lurid violence and volcanic farce.

In short, Mr Havelock has effected a triumphant marriage between the allegedly decadent style of the Citizens' Theatre and the wholesome virtues of the old Labour stage. Acknowledging that, the sharpest memory is of the richly eloquent Glasgow dialogue, and of Elizabeth MacLennan's gently implacable central performance.

Irving Wardle

TAVERNER

Peter Maxwell Davies

Conductor: Edward Downes
"To be recommended equally to those who love opera and to those who never set foot in the opera house. It could dispel great misapprehensions about opera as a dead art form." *Illustrated London News*
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Theatre

Thrilling chasms of mood and style

Nightshade
Birmingham Rep
Studio

A central curtained recess bathed in purple light and throbbing organ music; is this a crematorium or a variety theatre? For magician-musician John Quinn, it is both. But for all the funeral brio-brac, Stewart Parker's dark comedy is a play of great tenderness. The rubicund, middle-aged Quinn (Kenny Ireland) lost his wife, first by desertion then by death. Playing Miranda to his Prospero is his devilish daughter Delia, always ready to enter the case that he sticks full of swords, and feign a bloody accident to frighten him.

Their family doctor (June Brown), is a dry old bird with an invalid father, making unconventional arrangements for her own approaching death and subsequently sniggering quietly from the coffin as the conventional cosmetic and panegyrics are laid on regardless. Miss Brown's superb unsmiling wit is matched by Deborah Norton as Delia's elegantly frustrated headmistress.

But Delia herself, hyper-perceptive to the point of otherworldliness adds the spiritual dimension to the story. Croup-hair and gamine, Madeline Church fills that impossible demand, though her quicksilver movements go over the top at times.

She is haunted by two tales: *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Jacob's*

father's new assistant, a physics graduate progressing from the Law of Falling Bodies to laying them out, dead and alive. "You're dismissed", the headmistress says after sexual intercourse. "I thought you just were", comes the punning reply.

Kenny Ireland, taking over the lead at short notice, sails expertly though the satirical humour, pathos and conjuring tricks alike. And Peter Farago's production walks the tightrope over the play's thrilling chasms of mood and style.

Anthony Masters

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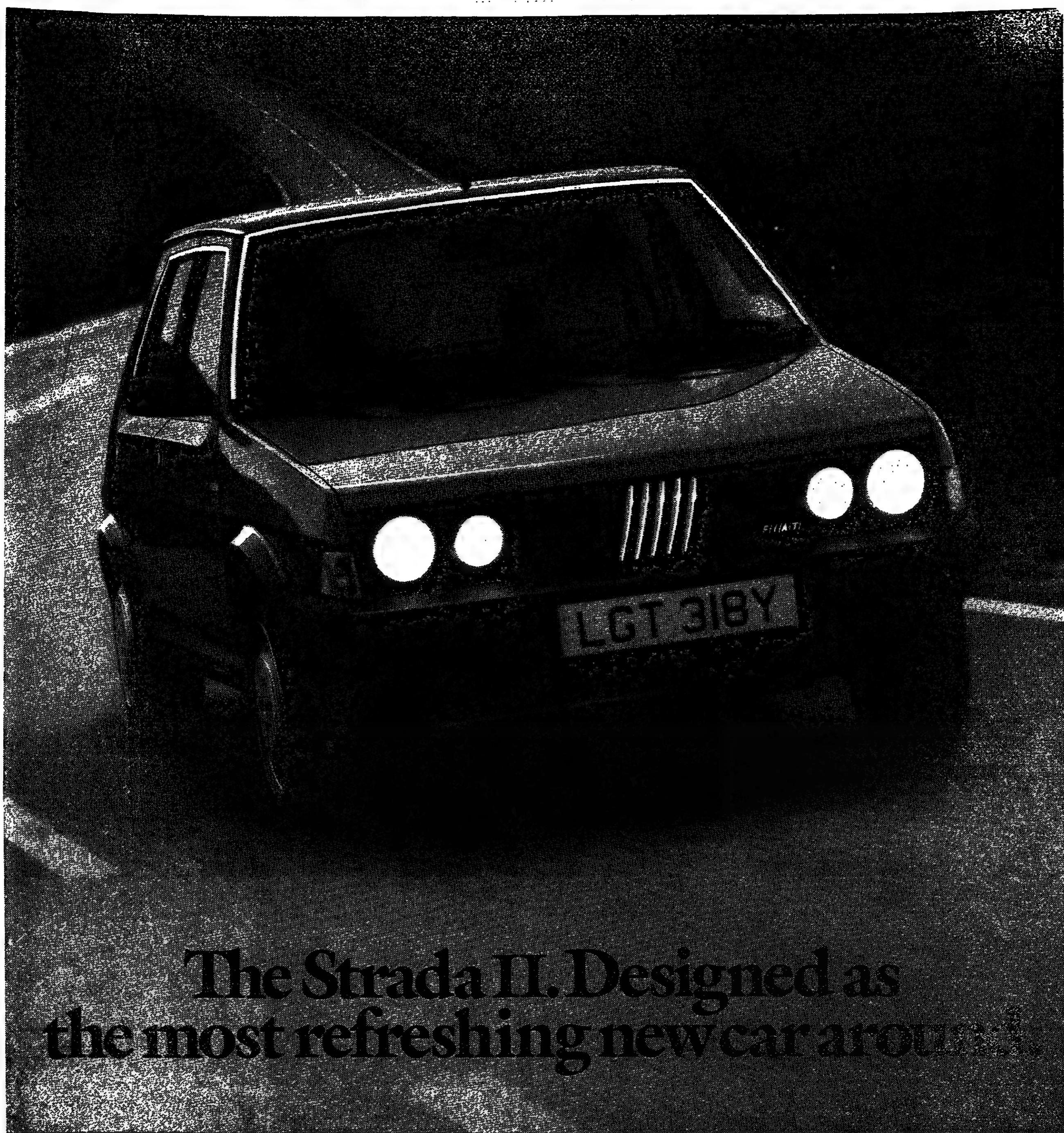
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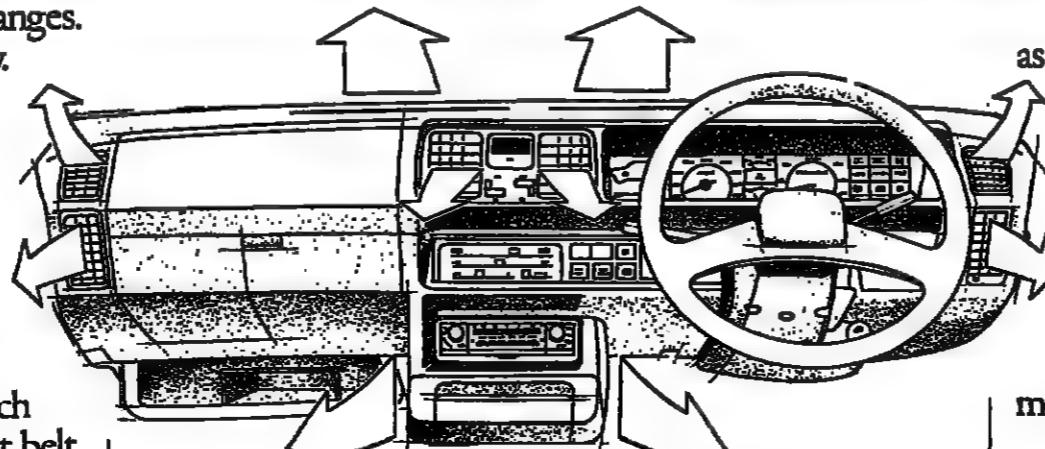
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SPECTRUM

A chop off the old block

MODERN TIMES
A short back and sideways look at the British way of life

fashion through the healing, and I may think that I... perhaps not quite so much off the back. Oh, you've done it. Fine.

Karen here tells me she's spent four years training for this. I am flattered of course, but a voice inside tells me that pilots spend just as long learning to fly, and VC10s still crash. Karen is the one in italics:

"Ooo, it's in terrible condition."

"Sorry."

"If 'hen did you last have it done?"

"Pass."

"Mmm"

My mother used to cut my father's hair, and I use the word advisedly, for he had but one. Most of the time she was pretty adroit, although there was one terrible occasion when she went for the hair and missed. There was a click of scissors and a piece of ear flew like a finger nail into the corner of the room.

I understand that hair grows six feet a day. It would be a grand thing - though not for the trade, I admit - if all this push could concentrate itself in a single strand.

But we are imperfect - Karen's not too brilliant either. Suddenly I am looking terribly lopsided. A stroke perhaps. This place Snippets used to be a butcher's and I suppose some of the cutting finesse must have imbued itself into the... ouch. No, I'm sorry, but that actually hurt.

When I was a boy it was all so simple. Candy-striped spirals twirled on the corner of every parade, and for half a crown you could come out looking like Dennis Compton. Whatever could have happened to those sound and basic practitioners when the sixties started swinging (they have a lot to answer for) and long hair demanded its new technologists? Did they all go off to Eastbourne and Tunbridge Wells, where the demand for short back and sides was still brisk? I think we should be told.

There are those who say that the hairdresser's function has an interface with that of the analyst; that there is some vital nerve linking the scalp with the soul; that the massaging of the one unlocks the secrets of the other. I must be deficient here for I would no sooner lodge my intimacies with Karen than I would have my children kennelled for the holidays. My problem entirely, I know, for the air is crackling with talk of infidelity, real or imagined.

The woman on my right is being crimped into some bizarre confection. She looks like the planning stage for a main dish, with her hair packed into a million twists of silver foil. It must be costing her. Surely she is not walking home in this state as she would be a must for any old flash of lightning. Her Kenny has been playing around. He came home the other night with long scratches down his back and love bites glowing in the soft of his shoulder (although he was so drunk that he tried to pass these off as symptoms of Dutch Elm disease). Now she is taking revenge on him, and her first step is to punish him visually. It could backfire dreadfully.

I shall be resolute. I shall not fire off some inane line like "My wife doesn't understand me" for the sake of conformity. Actually it is true: she doesn't understand me, any more than I do. Who but a thoroughgoing prune would blue £8.00 (no, I am not claiming it on expenses) for this sort of.... I didn't know my ears were that shape.

Why am I the only bloke here? Don't answer that. These unisex places reek of the mark-up rationale; a woman's hair costs more to do than a man's, but, in the bold egalitarianism of the salon, disparities should be kept to a minimum. Hence the eight quid. Now if I hadn't decided years ago not to look like Liberace I might yet put them through their paces.

And another thing. What happened to the quiff? I have a friend called Cottie who is a lonely conservationist in the field, but then he is very short and needs the inches. He has developed his own fish-based agent with which to fix his naturally limp forelock. Every morning he scoops it and sculpts it endlessly, and as he walks to the station it rears above him like a Malibu roller. But it has the durability of a brandy snap, and the first gust of following wind reduces it to a glistening splatter across his face.

Brush strokes on the neck tell me the job is done. A flash of the profile in the hand mirror tells me I am perhaps not here at all, but hair is shorn, sheared and shed. I am bepunched.

At the door, who should I pass on my way in but Cottie, finally delivering himself to the professionals. Don't do it, Cottie. Don't be a fool, man. But he does not recognize me. There is hope for me yet. Thank you Karen.

Alan Franks

FLAVIA CORKSCREW'S GOOD FOOD GUIDE

It's been too wet to get the potatoes in Flavia. By July they'll be £2.80 per lb!

By August it will be cheaper to eat the money, and more nutritious

Lucky we EEC farmers do that anyway; we usually give off a basket of currencies...

...and finish off with a water thin pocket calculator

Come September mashed potato will be legal tender

More tender than legal

...washed down with liquid reserves...

Or would you prefer a Royal Mint?

How do you like your starting, weak or strong?

And if you gamble chips will be chips.

I am writing to you from Snippets in the High Street, and if I wander from the point occasionally that is because I am... not too much off the front please. Yes, that's about right.

This is Karen. She is as bored as I am apprehensive, which is very. The first time I went to one of these flash dentists, I mean hairdressers, I put my knee on the chair where my bottom should have gone, and leaned over, forelock first, into the basin. A bad start, you say, but not as bad as the finish; I came out looking like a spiky rat, freshly drowned. I made straight for the swimming pool, as I shall after this session, to wreck timeless properties of chlorine and a municipal towel. You may think that I... perhaps not quite so much off the back. Oh, you've done it. Fine.

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Alan Franks



strong person without being heavily flamboyant - we joke a lot, find out what the other is doing, talk quite a bit about clothes: in jackets and suits we have similar tastes.... David understands that it's as important for a man as for a woman to have his hair and head looking good."

DAVID BEDI
of Ricci Burns

"Though he finds it difficult, he's actually got very nice hair to work with - a natural curl, nice movement. The wonderful thing about Robin is that he is a great communicator and he's on the ball. He likes gardening, goes to the gym, takes an interest in clothes and though age is a barrier only if you have absolutely nothing in common it's nice that we are of a similar age. He's always cheerful, happy, though sometimes he's a bit tense. You can tell by the scalp, you know. All scalps tighten with tension (though the average housewife's is looser) and it's very important for men, who are more prone to hair loss. Tension and tight follicles kill hair. In the series before last Robin was very tense and I gave him a number of exercises to relieve that... If I haven't seen him for a while a built-in alarm clock tells me he's due - I'd never ring, though. That would be unethical."

ROBIN SACHS
actor, married to Siân Phillips

"I tend to be cast in upper class parts - Old Etonian, RAF or as I was in *Brideshead*. I don't even have to show David a photograph or discuss the character with him - he just knows what to do. Mine isn't the easiest hair - it curls when it's long, frizzes in the rain. It takes half an hour to cut and finger dry, or I go under the infra-red lamp. David's a



ZANE GRIFF
singer/actor

"Kevin usually comes to me. At the moment he's quite blond, long on top, cut into the structure underneath in a sort of art deco way. It falls differently on both sides from the crown and I have a sort of cow'slick on one side - Kevin gets the balance right. In the past five years it's changed about 15 times - it used to be very long, when I hid behind my hair. Kevin persuaded me I didn't need to - I was really frightened of going shorter but he nursed me through it. He's not like some hairdressers who cut for the sake of it if it only needs a couple of clips - if it only needs a couple of clips he'll fix it. He's got style - you see it in his person. I'd follow him to the outskirts of London. If he went to Manchester I'd grow it long again."

KEVIN THORP
ex-Michael John, now freelance



STEPHEN KOMLOSY
Financier, married to Patti Bouler

"Male or female is irrelevant. Angelina has a tremendous reputation in men's hairdressing. I think it's ten years now; it took about three to teach her how to do it - I used to have a parting. Angelina kept grumbling, then my wife. They changed; that between them... A good hairdresser's rather like a good tailor - they persuade you gently. I try to go at lunchtime so as not to waste time. I have a sandwich and read. Angelina talks. She fancies herself as a bit of a mystic - she rabbits away but has no uncanny habit of eyes being right."

ANGELINA BOSCO
in charge of the men's salon at Leonard's

"He's got lovely hair - blond and a lot of it - in fact he's a lovely person, looks after himself, jogs, swims and he's a vegetarian. But not vain. Did you know he's a Hungarian aristocrat - he didn't tell me, I had to dig it out. He's very quiet, very pale in hair, smart in style - nice jewelry, a good watch, case, clothes, you know what I mean. He's a very good client - always on time and that does help. A gentle person. I've never seen him lose his temper. We never saw eye to eye on his parting - it was awful."

Judy Froshaug

Talking out the Labour Party

MOREOVER Miles Kington

Lord Ampersand advised Lord Treadmill to stick around for the Labour Party Bill and he would see as much blood sports as he liked. It could develop into quite a brouhaha.

Lord Mungo: How do you spell that?

Lord Wiggin said he had been a member of the Labour Party for 50 years. He had known what poverty was like. Wiggin Towners the stately home in which he grew up, had no running water or heating in most of its 45 rooms and they had only had an outside lavatory, built by Robert Adam in a most inconvenient place.

Lord Adonis: I cannot see what harm the Labour Party has done anyone.

Lord Ampersand said that Lord Adonis was a funny kind of name.

Lord Adonis: I changed it at the suggestion of my sponsor. Let me repeat: I cannot see what harm the Labour Party has done.

Lord Catchpole explained that the general feeling was that the Labour Party was an elitist body, open only to people who had been to certain kinds of schools from certain kinds of background. It also enshrined an out-of-date principle of hereditary primogeniture.

Lord Mungo: How do you spell that?

Lord Treadmill said he didn't see what had to do with the Otters and Ferrets Enabling Bill. He had travelled all the way from Northumberland to say his piece about blood sports and he didn't want to waste time on the Labour Party.

Lord Catchpole: I believe, my Lord, the Otters and Ferrets Bill is tomorrow.

stark raving loony to abolish the Labour Party. It was a prime tourist attraction. People flocked from all over the world to see what the Labour Party stood for - black puddings, Barnsley Public Library, Keith Waterhouse, sunset over Toxteth, bacon butties and the statue of Melvyn Bragg in Pontefract.

Lord Mungo: How do you spell that?

Lord Catchpole: said there

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 74)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
					8	
					9	
					10	
11	Anti aircraft fire (4)				12	
12	Castigator (7)				13	
13	Curiously (7)				14	
14	Implanted (4)				15	
15	Caricature (5)				16	
16	Fast feline (?)				17	
17	Expression of surprise (3)				18	
18	Great fear (5)				19	
19	Tuft of threads (7)				20	
20					21	
21					22	
22					23	
23					24	
24					25	
2						

FRIDAY PAGE

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Danger in the sunshine

The wettest spring on record will encourage holiday makers to seek the sun. They should beware; recent work has shown that the complications from blistering and burning are more far-reaching than suffering the agony of lying on a hotel bed with a badly burnt back and chest.

The greatest danger does not seem to be to outdoor workers, but to office workers and others who expose their pallid skin only once a year and are therefore at risk of getting burnt, whether to the hot Mediterranean sun or the less fierce heat of the occasional sunny day on the Moray firth.

There is evidence that sunburning increases the chance of developing a cancerous mole (melanoma) for two reasons. It alters the body's general immune system demonstrated by the fact that moles can turn malignant after severe burning even when occurring on the most intimate areas and therefore protected from direct sun by even the briefest of clothes. When the sun's rays do scorch the skin, actual damage to the mole may also precipitate similar changes.

People who are constantly exposed to the sun develop a different type of skin change, a solar keratosis, a rough scaly patch often seen on the backs of the hands and faces of farm workers, sailors and empire traders. These patches may be treated with Eudix cream (5-Flourouracil) or by freezing when still small, before they have given rise to trouble. If left, a squamous cell carcinoma, a skin cancer of low malignancy, may develop; this would then have to be removed surgically or treated with radiotherapy.

The bends

Priests and plumbers have something in common, both are repetitive kneelers: one before the altar and the other behind the pipes.

Dr Thomas Brachen describes in the New England Journal of Medicine the case of a 45-year-old priest who has suffered chronic damage to the outer cartilage of his knee joint as a result he has pain, swelling and locking in the joint. Dr Brachen suggests that there might be similar cases: certainly a friend and plumber had identical signs and symptoms this weekend. Furthermore he denied that he took violent exercise, or had ever knowingly twisted his knee, and volunteered the fact that the trouble started after a job which required more repetitive kneeling than usual.

Joint-wear

The affecting picture of an elderly voter hobbling to the polls is as much part of an election as photographs of bands are to sport. It is not difficult for the press to find a subject, for statistic independently quoted by the Arthritis and Rheumatic Council, and by Professor Nicholas Bellamy and Professor Watson Buchanan of Ontario, in the month's Update, suggest that over one million people in Britain have rheumatoid arthritis and another five million osteoarthritis. Rheumatoid is twice as common in women as in men; osteoarthritis, often imprecisely defined as a wearing out of the joints, is equally divided between the sexes.

Circumstances have been kind to the council this year; Mr Robin Leigh Pemberton, its chairman, had to resign when he became Governor of the Bank of England, and its National Arthritis Week, designed to publicize the advances in diagnosis and treatment made possible by research, has coincided with the general election.

Dr Colin Barnes, acting chairman, told *The Times* that in 1982, the council distributed over £3m to 170 different research projects, as well as subsidizing undergraduate and post-graduate education; more than one third of the money had been collected by supporters in its 900 branches.

Despite the onslaught of the research workers, many aspects of rheumatoid arthritis remain unexplained.

The X factor

Each edition of Debrett's contains a melancholy list of peerages and baronies which have recently become extinct for want of a male heir. But the ability to choose the sex of a child by separating the sperms carrying the Y male-determining chromosome from the X female-bearing one has a medical importance far greater than that of satisfying a peer's longing for perpetuation.

The Japanese claim that they have found an electrical means of dividing the two types of sperm so that it is possible to produce a seminal specimen containing girl-bearing sperms only. This will give hope to women who, although healthy, are carriers of the so-called X-linked diseases which may affect the male children they bear.

It is only possible now to avoid this hazard by aborting all male foetuses; the Japanese advance if confirmed would herald an era of selective conception rather than selective abortion.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford
Medical Correspondent



Wendy Hales

Someone old, someone new

Today's report, *Marriage - and the Standing Committee's Task*, has a panicky air to it, like an ailing department store hastily arranging a mid-season sale to attract custom.

The report follows a decision by the General Synod of the Church of England to allow, in certain circumstances, divorced people to remarry in church and its request that the Synod's Standing Committee look into the possibilities of this.

Goodness knows, the present situation is far from satisfactory. As things stand, single persons, no matter how casual their connexion with their church, are entitled to be wedded in it, while divorced persons, no matter how devout churchgoers they may be, are not. How unfair on the divorced man of irreproachable behaviour who wishes to take as his second wife a spiritually-inclined spinster. They may not marry in church, although their subsequent children may be baptised there. Yet although the Standing Committee would like such people to have the benefit of a church wedding, it certainly doesn't intend to treat them like first timers. First it would have them go through some intensely probing interviews before the diocesan bishop decides whether to allow their marriage to be solemnized.

The church would then publicly release them from their previous marriage vows - a rather embarrassing and certainly superfluous gesture, since the state has already done that. Some members of the committee would like to see a further indignity: a public statement to the effect that the marriage about to take place is a "second" one. I find it slightly disturbing that

The Church of England decision to allow divorcees to remarry in church in certain circumstances presents a number of embarrassments to the devout. Penny Perrick examines the trend that has led up to the decision

throughout this report "second" when referring to marriage, is always placed in quotes, making it sound like something that isn't real, like fake fur or leatherette. Such proposals, I feel, present an unattractive package for people who have already gone through the trauma of a divorce. They will also, in that nervy period before a wedding-day serve to remind everyone concerned of past failures, at the very time when it is helpful to be able to concentrate on future happiness.

All but the most determined will probably think that the briskness of a register office ceremony is preferable to an intrusive inspection into one's past life. And this is a shame because the Church of England badly needs more weddings.

Throughout most of the 1970s, all over the industrialized world, the marriage rate has been dropping, while the cohabitation rate has been rising. People have simply been marrying later, to which may explain why the number of first marriages taking place in the Church of England has dropped sharply from 41 per cent of all first marriages in 1970 to 32 per cent in 1979. An 18-year-old bride might need veils, bouquets, bridesmaids and an authorized marriage service to make the day complete but a 27-year-old woman who has been living with her new husband for several years might rather spend the money on new carpeting. The economic recession plus the fact that register offices now go in for floral arrangements and a festive atmosphere have also contributed to the decline in church wedding. It is clear that unless the church can solemnize second or even "second" marriages, it might find itself participating in fewer and fewer marriages as the years go by.

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There was no question of a church wedding," she said, "so we made it as grand an occasion as possible by inviting both our large families to the register office. My mother, bless her, showed solidarity by wearing an amazing mother-of-the-bride outfit which was pure Barbara Cartland. During the years between my two marriages, I'd felt greatly sustained by going regularly to church and I should have liked the chance of repeating the marriage vows.

"I certainly approve of the decision to allow church weddings for divorced people and even sympathise with some of the hurdles the church may put in their way. I think it's the church's job to see that people don't take the matter lightly. I wouldn't like to see irresponsible people who drift in and out of marriage being given a second and then a third chance to walk down the aisle. One snag is that with weddings, if something can go wrong it will, and there could be a gaudy muddle over getting the bishop's permission and then the public statement and what you added to the general confusion."

Another friend, about to marry for the second time in August, said that she would like a religious ceremony but would resent having to undergo the questioning and to be treated

Following the General Synod's decision in 1981 that there were circumstances in which a divorced person might marry in church during the lifetime of a former partner, the Standing Committee reports today on proposed procedures to allow such church marriage, subject to the following provisions:

Such a procedure must be pastorally conceived and operated in the highest pastoral interests of the couple, subject to the requirements of the Church's teaching.

Full and sensitive inquiry into each case should be undertaken by the incumbent, who would complete an application form for submission to the bishop and arrange for the parties to sign a simple declaration. The bishop would seek advice from a multi-diocesan panel.

The bishop, in affirming, would include a statement dispensing the person(s) concerned from the obligation to keep marriage vows previously made.

The Standing Committee is evenly divided on whether some form of public statement (of the fact that one of the parties has been divorced and has a former partner still living and that the bishop's special permission has been granted) should be mandatory.

differently from someone marrying for the first time: "It reminds me of those schools where they make children get free dinners stand in a separate queue. In a way, I find the present system more logical. The church, by not allowing second marriages to be solemnized, is emphasizing that marriage is, ideally, something you do only once, so, unless your partner dies, you're only allowed one shot at it. I'm quite a religious woman, but if I were allowed to marry in church again, I might get the feeling that I was somehow cheating. Perhaps a register office is more suitable - we can always go to church afterwards. On the other hand, you could say that the Church of England should be prepared to marry anyone who wants a church ceremony. Someone said that a second marriage was a triumph of hope over experience and there's something rather spiritually uplifting about that sentiment which maybe the church should encourage."

What MPs think of women

It is unkind to make trouble between husband and wife, but I feel that Lady Howe, as a former deputy chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission, really should know this about Sir Geoffrey. Last February, when asked to define his attitude towards women by filling in a ten-point questionnaire sent to him by Carol Sarler, the editor of *Honey* magazine, he declined. "It's not his practice," Sir Geoffrey's private secretary wrote to Miss Sarler, "to complete documents of utter stupidity - quite rightly".

Jill Craigie, wife of Michael Foot, is just as interested in women's issues as Lady Howe and need not, on this occasion at least, feel embarrassed by her husband. Mr Foot filled in the questionnaire with great diligence, extending each yes and no' with a robust comment, as, for example: "It is better for a child to come home to a mother who feels happy with her day's work, than one who feels angry because she has had no choice but to stay at home all day". Alberi Booth, the former Labour Cabinet Minister who Jill Craigie described recently as "an unrecognized feminist", filled in his questionnaire most sympathetically, so that's all right.

Among the 220 Members of Parliament (out of a total of 635) who responded, were David Steel and Shirley Williams. Mrs Thatcher said she didn't have time to fill in her questionnaire, but sent round one of her old speeches instead. The three male members of the Gang of Four, Jenkins, Owen and Rodgers, did not the Alliance's record - a 52 per cent response by not replying. In fact, in spite of the SDP being the only party which officially insists on including women on selection shortlists, the Liberal MPs seemed more mindful of women's interest.

"I find it remarkable that Mrs T's proposals for the family include the disgraceful suggestion that women should find their self-expression at the kitchen sink rather than at work," wrote David Steel. And on the subject of sexual harassment, David Atton answered: "I would welcome a change in the general attitudes towards women in my own particular workplace - the Houses of Parliament".

The newly-reassembled House of Commons will surely be a less turbulent place without the presence

HOW MP'S RESPONDED TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Labour: 44 per cent (109). Conservative: 24 per cent (80). SDP/Liberal: 52 per cent (22). Other: 19 per cent (4). One Ulster Unionist, one Scottish nationalist, two Plaid Cymru. Nine replied anonymously.

of Andy McMahon, the Labour MP who, shortly after posting back his questionnaire failed to be reselected for Glasgow, Govan. "I would be willing to support medical amputation for man who had been found guilty of rape", thundered Mr McMahon at one point. Demonstrating his lack of bias on the sexes, his view on sexual harassment was that "it is most unfortunate that certain females enjoy this, although I can see no action that will prevent the pinching and groping that females of all ages accept and enjoy, even boast about". Thank goodness that for Heaven help us if Mr McMahon could visualize something that would cure us of our boorish ways.

Just as interesting as the politicians' view is the fact that the July issue of *Honey* devotes seven whole pages to analysing them, and example of the more serious approach this "teenage" magazine has taken since Carol Sarler, a single parent and mother of daughter aged nine, took over as editor three years ago. Now the average *Honey* reader is over 20 and is, Carol Sarler thinks, growing more politically aware.

Young women are growing up in an era that has no precedents", she said. "They have to work things out for themselves because their mums can't really help. These women support each other and expect their magazines' support too. You can go into any pub and hear twenty-two-year-old women ranting on about things. It's the young woman who are involved in Greenham Common and who start up nippie crisis centres, all of which is undoubtedly a result of the feminist movement which has left no woman's life untouched, even if all it means to a housewife in Scunthorpe is that she asks her husband to give her a hand with the washing up."

She chose the ten questions on equal opportunities, disarmament, education, rape and violence.

TALKBACK

Clouded view

From Mrs Doreen Wiltshire, Holly Cottage, Back Road, Falkenhurst, Ipswich.

I refer to the article of Wednesday (May 25) "Living happily ever after" about the Eysencks.

In a paper of the calibre of *The Times*, I object to reading the comment about Sybil Eysenck: "She is a pretty woman with a cloud of long dark hair and the figure of a young girl".

Perhaps we should also have read how Professor Eysenck was a handsome man with a cloud of short, wavy hair and the figure of a middle-aged man!

Must we put up with such blatant sexism?

House-sense

From Christopher Gay, City Chief Executive, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent.

It is only possible now to avoid this hazard by aborting all male foetuses; the Japanese advance if confirmed would herald an era of selective conception rather than selective abortion.



Debrett's contains a melancholy list of peerages and baronies which have recently become extinct for want of a male heir. But the ability to choose the sex of a child by separating the sperms carrying the Y male-determining chromosome from the X female-bearing one has a medical importance far greater than that of satisfying a peer's longing for perpetuation.

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Dr Thomas Stuttaford
Medical Correspondent

reducing sensitivity to the delayed reaction to bites which Mellany noted in the 1940s. Studies on army personnel in cages between 1939-45 showed that *Anopheles* would feed on everyone, but that after regular bites nightly or several weeks, sensitivity to further bites fell off (*Nature* 158:751).

At any rate the scepticism about vitamin B preventing bites seems well founded. You did not mention the use of coils of mosquito-repelling incense, which may contain pyrethrins; I'm not sure of either the composition or the spelling, though, unburnt, in a smoke-filled room which may create its own health hazards.

B is for bite

From Professor Robert Miller, American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon

In Medical Briefing (May 13) you reported that a specialist at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine was sceptical about old colonial bands' claim that vitamin B tablets helped to keep off mosquitoes.

Has it been suggested that the vitamin B might have helped in

Anne Bluston

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Love or money

From A. M. Parrott, 27 Fonthill Terrace, Aberdeen.

Apropos the report that £400,000 has been bequeathed to institute a prize for writers of romantic fiction. Could this fairly be described as a slush fund?

Sport:

Racing preview of The Oaks and Ladies' Day at Epsom

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Family Money:

How first-time buyers can get trapped in their own home

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Run of the mill

Margaret Thatcher, who has already been photographed during this election with a dead conger eel, inspecting slags and driving a dumper truck, refused a photographer's request in a Scottish weaving mill to be pictured in a "Tao's" shirt. "It's too grimy," she said. She then flew to north-west England, where she was photographed in baker's regalia in a Bolton bakery and sipping a half pint in a Stockport brewery.

Lapels go Lab

I have discovered a landslide to Labour among committed voters. The Badge Shop in Earls Court, Covent Garden, has been selling political badges and keeping a tally of the purchases. The results so far are: "I am a floating voter", 4.7 per cent; "Don't vote, it only encourages them", 17.9 per cent; "Vote Liberal/SDF", 7.6 per cent; "Vote Conservative", 11.2 per cent; and "Vote Labour", an overall majority, 58.9 per cent.

Indecision day

My politically open mind this morning is Timothy Abbott. He is contesting Salisbury for the Don't Know party, and he has formed an alliance with the local Undecideds. He is getting 22 per cent support in the opinion polls. "I have no wish to take committed voters from other parties", he says, "but I think it is time for the Don't Knows to stand up and be counted. Only 70 per cent voted in Salisbury last time. We should have a 100 per cent poll at this election." Abbott, a registered psychiatric nurse and former social worker, has not got much up at the moment, so he can take up parliamentary duties if the electorate decide that they cannot make up their minds.

All-purpose

The work is shared around at British Island Airways, the firm flying Margaret Thatcher on her election tour. The arrival of Captain Roy Heath, the company's marketing director, in the cabin to pilot the plane surprised the travelling press corps. Earlier in the tour his job had included helping the stewardess clear away the food and drink trays.

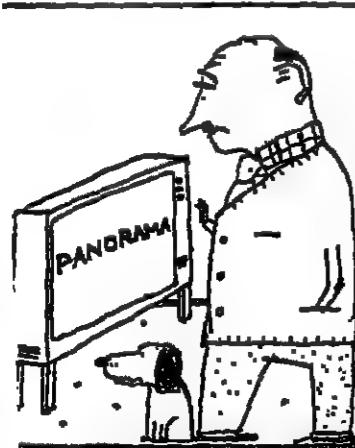
Party games

I have just received a breathless call from Heathrow by a flying Plan called Kanno Vinkka. No, this is not another anagram, although the gist of his message was that the main parties are open to revision, as follows: Liberal becomes "braille", a Russian currency exchange turns Labour into "scrub", while Conservative becomes "revise a TV cod", presumably a memo to the other Smith Square wordsmiths.

Boy's own

Even though, as I reported yesterday, our public schools are fighting shy of providing the location for the film of Julian Mitchell's controversial *Another Country*, a small group of boys at Eton are staging the play themselves. Performances, expected to be a sell-out, are in the school's Farce Theatre on June 16 to 18 and programme advertising is being sold at hard-headed rates. The head of drama has even been roped in to play the only non-juvenile. Downside has already staged the play and I now wait, in vain perhaps, for Mitchell's old school, Winchester, to follow suit.

BARRY FANTONI



ake one smile . . .
Yesterday Anton Mosimann, my favourite London hotel chef, mounted a bravura display in the cheshire kitchens to launch his *Cuisine à la Carte*. Such is Mosimann's reputation that there were 650 trained chefs around the world waiting to work with him. But it was fascinating to me, as an amateur food reader, to discover Mosimann picks all his staff by tasting their faces. "People with faces cannot be good in restaurants. We have 98 per cent with warm faces now," he was glowing warmly. In the heat of the kitchen, I could believe him.

The programme for the girls' school romp at the Globe Theatre, *Daft Girls Pull It Off*, includes an old girls' section announcing births, marriages and other snippets. Now the department has received a letter from Doris Tong, née Mellow, marriage 53 years ago is one mentioned. She was at the London School for Girls from 1922, and now lives in am. She has been invited up to see the show, though she rarely goes to town these - except for Old Girls' association meetings.

PMS

Indore

It looked like that scene from *Gandhi*: the political leader striding out along the dusty road, surrounded and followed by his supporters dressed in white homespun cotton, a hundred to two hundred of them trailing away into the distance. The Mahatma was marching to the sea at Dandi to make salt in contravention of the British laws, and so to dramatize the struggle for the freedom of his people.

In fact, Mr Chandra Shekhar, president of the opposition Janata Party, is marching virtually the length of India, from Kanniyakumari in the far south to Delhi in the north. His aim, he says, is to return political power to the people. "We are trying to take back politics to the villages," he said during a rest just outside this, the largest town in Madhya Pradesh, at about the three-quarter mark of his journey.

The march, 2,500 miles in all, including the zigzagging in and out of towns, is called a *padayatra*, a

The walkabout to end all walkabouts

pilgrimage on foot. The symbolic value of walking about this great dry subcontinent is deeply ingrained in the Indian ethos.

Not only Gandhi in recent times, but Vinoba Bhave also gained respect and reverence from his 13 years of marches attempting to persuade landlords to relinquish land to their tenants. But the tradition goes back at least to the eighth-century holy man, Adi Shankar Acharya, who wandered the country from Kerala to Kashmir, founding centres of learning in *ashrams* and challenging the Buddhist faith.

Holy men belonging to the Jain sect today still walk the countryside preaching.

Mr Chandra Shekhar, aged 56, looks a little like a holy man, with a dark scruffy beard, a burning eye

and a charming smile. His *padayatra* caused some amusement in sophisticated circles when it started, nor could it help the operation of a political party to have its president away from the office for six months at a time.

But the amusement and frustration have died away now the march is beginning to get respectful attention, and the contact with village people is obviously bringing him a growing reputation.

There is little doubt that by the time his pilgrimage ends on June 23 in Delhi - the eighth anniversary of Mrs Gandhi's declaration of state of emergency - he will have become the second best known politician in the country.

It is becoming difficult for him to meet and listen to people along the

way. He is garlanded every few hundred yards with marigolds, but these occasions appear to cause him some distress as the onward sweep of the marching *padayatras* clashes with the reception committees and people swirl about him.

But he listens as much as he can, mostly to requests to provide drinking water as he has been through some of the most drought-afflicted regions of Kerala and Tamil Nadu, and he and his followers now propose to use some of the money he has raised along the way towards improving the rural water supply.

He is not a compelling public speaker, and can sound preachy and querulous. He has never held ministerial office - he remained party president all through the Janata Party's period in power - and perhaps for this reason is thought unlikely to become Prime Minister if Mrs Gandhi should lose again. But his reputation is now such that he is certain to be the king-maker.

Michael Hamlyn

Faith in defence the Nato way

JUNE 14 '83

John Pardoe

One of the best things to come out of this election so far has been the attention given to the defence issue. I suspect that many people have been forced to reconsider the whole subject.

That old logician Enoch Powell has applied his considerable mind and dragged us back to first principles, not for the first time. His argument that Britain's independent nuclear deterrent is "useless" is not of course new. It was put forward by the Liberal Party as early as 1957 and was one of the policies which persuaded me to join the party. Then, like Mr Powell now, I was totally convinced by the logic of the case.

Britain's nuclear weaponry, according to Mr Powell, "negligible in comparison with that of Russia". To deploy it against Russia therefore would be to commit suicide since Russian weapons could destroy Britain while Britain's weapons could do comparatively little damage to the Soviet Union.

All this is true and logical. But it is not practical. This distinction is within each one of us. Logically and philosophically I am a pacifist but I know that in practice I would not act as one.

However, Mr Powell's logic is much to be preferred to the extraordinary contortions performed by Mrs Thatcher on *Panorama* this week. She explained her refusal to seek dual-key control of American cruise missiles based on British soil by accusing those who argue for it of mistrusting our allies. How could we mistrust America? How disgraceful! In her very next breath however she defended the need for Britain's independent deterrent on the grounds that we could not trust America to come to our defence in a crisis. If Mr Powell loses his highly marginal seat in this election he could do worse than set up as a teacher of logic to British prime ministers.

The defence issues are so complex that probably only a very few "experts" really understand them. There do however appear to be certain essential principles which ought to be stated.

No one can be certain exactly what has kept the peace in Europe since 1945 but I strongly suspect that collective security within Nato and the Warsaw Pact backed by the balance of nuclear terror has been its main basis.

Tomorrow: Jack Brabec-Gardyne

Philip Howard

Yes, Mr Tebbit, I certainly will

I have sat on the bicycle-seat of the future, and it works; except that I fell off doing a U-turn. Alex Moulton, inventor and reviewer of technological books for *The Times*, when they are worth reviewing (which is, alas, not often), has just published his new bicycle. He is the chap who invented the Moulton bicycle, with dinky little wheels, the suspension of the Mini, and much else. His new bike is known as the Moulton Advanced Engineering Bicycle, and is notable for being divisible into two parts at the flick of a screw. It also weighs only 24 lb, is a miracle of ingenious design, with the pump, *per example*, secreted in the steel tube that holds the saddle, and costs rather more than I had in mind: paying for a new bicycle, when my 1942 second-hand iron horse finally falls into two parts.

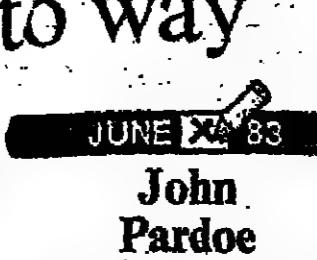
A. Moulton brought two of his new bikes in four parts in the boot of his car over to Edington in the Vale of the White Horse, near his stately Jacobean offices at Bradford-on-Avon, last Sunday. He assembled them as deftly as those of us with fingers like bunches of bananas screw on the tops of our fountain pens, and gave us a pep talk about the virtues of his invention. Then we set off to try them. That was where I fell off. This was partly because I find sharp turns on small-wheeled bikes an unstable affair; partly because when you pedal backwards the thing changes gear instead of free-wheeling; partly because there are steep hills hereabouts, my master; you remember the Battle of Eddington or Edington?

*King Guthrum lay on the upper land,
On a single road at gaze,
And his foes came with lean array.
Up the left arm of the cloven way,
To the meeting of the ways.*

"Lean array" would be miosis to describe our condition after west Wiltshire Sunday lunch; but we came wobbling up the steep single road to the meeting of the ways, and fell to the meeting of the ways, and fell to the meeting of the ways.

A new bicycle was one of the most memorable events of one's childhood, even a "new" second-hand bicycle; and some of the excitement lingers on. That shiny stainless steel and those interesting knobs are irresistible. It is no small thing to get on your bike, if it is a new one. To give one's name to a new kind of bicycle is one of the most gratifying and least harmful inventions available.

I suppose that Leonardo da Vinci was the first who nearly invented the push-bike. There is the design for a machine driven by cranks and pedals with connecting rods that has been ascribed to him. It looks the sort of thing that a man could fall off without trying. The precursor of the bike was the *citerelle* or *velocifere*, built for the Comte de Sivrac, and demonstrated at the Palais Royal, Paris, in 1791. It consisted of a sort of wooden horse on two wheels. The rider sat astride it and propelled it



Anything that damages that collective security or upsets that balance of terror therefore will make war more likely. That is why Labour's policies of pulling out of the EEC, one-sided disarmament, and import controls will all undermine our security. For they will damage our relations with our Nato partners and destroy confidence in the collective security of the alliance. Nato's collective security requires that a potential enemy will believe that when we say we will meet force with force. That is where Mr Powell's argument comes into its own. The Russians will simply not believe that we will commit nuclear suicide in response to a limited conventional attack. Yet that is what we are asking them to believe if we have weak conventional forces and rely on nuclear weapons.

General Rodgers, Nato's supreme commander in Europe, has been rubbing home this message for some time. He has said: "We have built ourselves a short conventional war." What he meant by this was that Nato's conventional forces in Europe are so weak that we would be forced to resort to nuclear weapons within days of a conventional attack.

That is why the Conservative government's determination to spend vast sums on Trident missiles is so dangerous. We shall, in General Rodgers' phrase, "have mortgaged our future to the nuclear response".

What Nato needs from Britain is the election of a government firmly committed to the principles of collective security within Nato, and determined to meet the Nato targets for conventional forces, thus enabling the eventual adoption of a "no first-use" policy for nuclear weapons.

Such a British government could then use all its authority as a sound partner in the alliance to get negotiations on multilateral disarmament and arms control moving forward. Such a government would place on the table of these negotiations both our own Polaris deterrent and a "pending" decision about the deployment of cruise missiles in Britain.

The author, Liberal MP for Cornwall North, 1966 to 1979, is a member of the Alliance campaign committee.

How will the Pope change Poland this time?



The Pope can thus play an incisive role: by going to Poland when the government is in a state of debility, he can strengthen the church leadership so that it can gain press effectively for social concessions. So far, church victories have been limited to their own sectional interests - for example, a bill will be presented soon regulating church-state relations and anchoring the position of the church in Polish society. Even these victories have been somewhat reduced by the crass behaviour of people - one can only assume them to be security officials - who break into churches and beat up Catholic workers on holy ground. But the Pope will again give legitimacy to a more concerned "human rights" offensive by the church.

Lech Walesa, who is expected to meet the Pope, and the underground leadership of Solidarity also support the papal visit. The radicals who once argued that it would be more effective to force the government to cancel the trip - and thus expose its weakness - have now fallen in with this line, some only grudgingly. The church politically.

Church advisers say they have learned two things from their dealings with the authorities. The first is that they are always keen to negotiate when they are in a position of political weakness and want to mobilise popular support; when this weakness turns into a simulacrum of strength, the attitude rapidly changes and the priests have to duck for cover. The second lesson is that the communists, having realized that concerted secularisation of Polish society is impossible, are content to divide and rule - setting priests against bishops, bishops against bishops - to neutralize the church politically.

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During the election *The Sun* seems to have been the only paper to keep one eye firmly on the box. Recognizing that its readers have had an overdose of politicians and election issues on radio and television *The Sun* has led its front page every day (until yesterday, anyway) with something completely different: "Scandal of a blind driver" (last Friday); "Naughty Di ticks off boy who stole a kiss" (Saturday); "Our Di looks swell" (Monday); "England stars in drink swoop" (Tuesday); "Wives vote for Lester" (Wednesday).

While *The Sun* has been watching television the *Daily Mirror*, which I referred to her a couple of weeks ago as "the dog that didn't bark in the night", has again been making news - this time with its "Foot sensation" - will he or won't he resign? front page on Wednesday, into which, I suspect, nothing sinister of significance should be read.

The paper that ought to be making the biggest headlines isn't even being published at the moment - the *Financial Times*. The dispute that has stopped production of the *FT* could not have come at a more embarrassing time for the newspaper or, indeed, for the Government. Having put the boot into the Tory party and Tory policies at every opportunity and gone out of its way to ask awkward questions, the voice of the City had, no doubt, planned

to come out firmly for Maggie at some strategic moment between now and the election. It may not now have that opportunity if the dispute continues.

And if there is no *FT* before the election the paper can hardly come out afterwards offering its congratulations. Not after the memorable headlines of the paper's last issue, on Tuesday, which aren't likely to be forgotten in a hurry by Mrs Thatcher: "Steel hits at Mrs Thatcher's 'obsession'", "Jobs bright touches West London".

What this election has lacked so far is any surprises. There have been no sensational revelations to do with monstrous allegations made by one politician against another, no acts of extreme silliness to lighten the gloom. So my heart leapt when I picked up the *Daily Mirror* on Tuesday and read the front page headline FOOT BITES BACK. For a wonderful moment I thought Foot had bitten his lovable dog Dizzy, the dog who, George Gale reported in the *Daily Express*, has stopped wagging his tail. Labour leader bites dog. Now that would be a story.

The author was until recently editor of the Daily Express.

Why Fleet Street is boxed in

The press and the election, by Christopher Ward

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Alex Moniton, public benefactor principle. The treadles were connected with the rear wheel, and the machine could be ridden without the rider's feet touching the ground, except in the bumper parts of Dumfries, you understand.

The blacksmith was not just the inventor, but the original racing cyclist. In 1842 he rode from Thornhill to Glasgow, but en route knocked down a child. After a somewhat sensational court case, he set out for home. On the way he fell in with a friend, driving the Glasgow to Carlisle mail coach. Macmillan bet him that he could race the coach to Dumfries, and won. And the new world of pumping legs and dipping inner tubes into buckets of water to locate the puncture was born.

You can see Kirkpatrick Macmillan's Heath Robinson invention of wood and cranks and rods in the Science Museum at Kensington; but you would be imprudent to try to ride it. These bicycle inventors are public benefactors. The



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THE FALKLANDS FACTOR

There are many reasons why it would have been better to have left the Falklands war out of the election campaign. The first is that the legacy which led to that war was a bipartisan one. True, the final miscalculation lay with Mrs Thatcher's government, but both Labour and Tory governments before her had sown the seeds of future misadventure. The second, as a consequence of the first, is that both governments suffer from the paradox that, though Britain has been in a shooting match with Argentina, she has supplied and continues to supply finance and military equipment to that country.

The ships, missiles and helicopters which Argentina used against British forces were all sold to her under Labour governments, as were the turbine engines now being installed in German frigates destined for Argentina. Over the same period the junta has and is receiving international financial help from banking consortia which include British banks, and which thus have always enabled the generals to relieve their indebtedness while continuing to buy even more arms on the open market. Mr Healey's accusations of hypocrisy thus come ill from a former Labour Defence Secretary and Chancellor.

The third reason is that lessons learnt in war - be they operational or political - are best acted on after patient enquiry and analysis, rather than through bombastic exchanges on the hustings. The fourth is that the armed forces who risked (and lost) their lives in the service of their country and in defence of the Falklands, are still at a state of readiness against any recurrence of the risk. That dedication can only be cheapened by the spectacle of its being exploited at home, either to the advantage of the government or as a political weapon with which to berate it. With all his experience Mr Healey knew this, and should thus have known better than to indulge in the coarse intervention for which he was rightly criticised yesterday. Sadly it has always been an aspect of Mr Healey's political character that, in spite of (or maybe because of) his superior intellect, he has felt it necessary to present himself as the common man by calculated coarseness and other unnecessary vulgarity. So he introduced the Falklands factor in the crudest way he could.

The election issue therefore is sovereignty, not whether it should be negotiated, but how it might be transferred. You either have sovereignty and defend it, or you give it away. Negotiations in those circumstances are merely about the conditions and arrangements for the inhabitants of the territory to be transferred.

The government's principle is that sovereignty is not negotiable and not transferable, and that, while the Argentines remain belligerent, the cost of defending such a proposition - several hundred million pounds per year - is something which just has to be borne. The Opposition Parties can contest that proposition - as

Dr Owen has done - but only on the basis of the question: should we defend the Falklands, even at that price, or should we prepare to give them away?

There remains the question of the Belgrano. One of the reasons why this question will not go away is that all those people who opposed the Falklands operation last year still have a vested interest in finding retrospective evidence to vindicate opinions which have otherwise been hopelessly vitiated by events. They believe that the sinking of the Belgrano is one such event. They hope that the facts will provide grounds for suggesting that Mrs Thatcher was always determined to go to war, in disregard of any apparent proposals for peace.

The Argentine Junta refuses to announce any formal cessation of hostilities. British troops are therefore still at risk in defending the Falklands. As long as a state of suspended hostilities obtains, the only Falklands factor which should legitimately enter the election is the issue of principle for the future. That issue is not whether or not there should be negotiations with Argentina, because of course there should. There is much to discuss in the search for a more tolerable *modus vivendi* in the South Atlantic. But if that can only be done by making a prior commitment to negotiate sovereignty, then nothing will be discussed.

There are demands for an enquiry. It is a measure of this country's fortunate insulation from most wartime activity for more than a generation that the sinking of a hostile ship - during hostilities - should remain the subject of persistent demands for an enquiry. Can one imagine what a long procession of enquiries would have occurred after 1945 if such had been the attitude then? The loss of all British warships has indeed been followed by painstaking and painful naval enquiries so that lessons can be learnt for the future. But quite rightly the result of those enquiries has remained at the technical level and has not become the subject of political pressures exercised in a different context at the expense of the surviving professionals who still have to carry on with their dangerous tasks in the South Atlantic.

Yesterday the Prime Minister once again rejected such an enquiry. The charge against her is that she deliberately changed the naval rules of engagement to sink both the Belgrano and the possibility that the Junta would accept the Peruvian peace proposal subsequently endorsed by the British Cabinet. What are the operational and political facts?

First the British were already aware from Mr Alexander Haig that it was virtually impossible to engage the Junta in any serious discussion. They also knew that while General Galtieri was ostensibly considering the Peruvian proposals, the Argentine navy was fully at sea advancing on the British Task Force from three directions. One of those thrusts consisted of the Belgrano and two destroyers

armed with Exocets, capable of destroying a war ship at up to 40 miles range.

Argentina had been warned previously that British warships would act in self defence on the high seas, and would automatically attack any Argentine ship within the stated exclusion zone round the Falklands. The general self-defence provision was not applicable to nuclear submarines except in circumstances of a submarine-to-submarine encounter. So when the Captain of HMS Conqueror discovered the Belgrano force advancing towards British ships he had to seek specific permission to have the rules changed before he could engage the cruiser.

That permission was sought from the war Cabinet and was granted. Operationally speaking the risk of not granting it would have been to allow Belgrano and its attendant Exocet boats among the Task Force. British ships had already been bombed and they had no permanent reconnaissance capability than the Harrier aircraft had to act as air defence against bombers.

Operationally speaking only overriding diplomatic reasons would have justified placing the British shipping - frigates, carriers, even Canberra - in such jeopardy from an Exocet-armed force. The fact that Belgrano was sailing westward at the time is totally immaterial. Has anybody bothered to ask which way HMS Sheffield's bows were pointing when she went down, or any of the other British warships which were sunk? It takes a mere 30 seconds to alter course - as Belgrano had done many times before she was sunk.

In those circumstances the hypothetical possibility that the Junta might change character and genuinely embrace a peace proposal - against all previous evidence - could not have been seriously entertained by the British War Cabinet without exposing the Task Force, and therefore Britain's whole ability, if necessary, to recapture the Falklands, to a quite unacceptable risk.

However it was not these rational and strategic considerations which lay behind Mr Healey's attack. It was an intention to portray the Prime Minister, by association, as a person whose bloodthirsty and callous approach to the Falklands was to be found in her attitude to unemployment, health, welfare, and the deterrent. That goes far beyond the tactics of "whose finger on the trigger" - a previous Labour ploy. It goes beyond the suggestion that the Prime Minister's style of leadership is more suited to winning a war than ensuring the peace. Those are legitimate questions to raise in an election where the quality of political leadership on offer is widely accepted as being even more important than the range of policies put forward; but this is not the way to raise them. It goes far beyond all reasonable standards of political debate, and in so doing, it goes too far.

NEW WARDROBE FOR THE WI

During the keynote address at the new-look Women's Institute yesterday, one significant burst of applause interrupted the movement's chairman (it is one of the dwindling number of organizations in Britain still ruled by chairmen rather than chairpeople). It came when the speaker, Mrs Anne Harris, paused in her recital of plans to transform the WI's image and declared "We shall never lose our non-party and non-sectarian stance". There was a trace of relief in the applause: one of the penalties of a campaign to tease public interest with promises of startling but unspecified changes soon to be revealed is that more conservative listeners may become alarmed. The WI, which does something very worthwhile and has been doing it for nearly 80 years, is a conservative organization in the best sense, and is rightly wary of trendy stridency.

There is a gloss of trendy stridency upon the programme launched yesterday. With its motorcades, snappy slogans, windscreens stickers and razzamatazz theme song it is reminiscent of a commercial advertising hype or even (perish the thought) a political campaign. Like its models, it is an ephemeral ploy, harmless in itself, to catch attention. It is easy to foresee that the WI will still be singing "Jerusalem", by that political

and sexual subversive William Blake, when the homogenized uplift of the theme-song (words and melody attributed to the handouts to a little-known composer/librettist by the name of Optographic) has long been forgotten. Underneath the tinsel, the movement itself is intended to retain its essential character.

What is less superficial is the decision to make an energetic play for business sponsorship. This is not a wholly new departure, for the WI has often collaborated with commercial promoters for special events. But the scale of the partnership is new, and so are the motives behind it. For many years the membership of the WI has gradually been declining from its peak of almost half a million. This is not altogether matter for blame. It is a country organization, and population has been moving from the country to the suburbs. The number of competing community organizations and lobbyists has inevitably grown, in activities where the WI was the pioneer. If a certain dowdiness is imputed to its ideals of voluntary service in cottage hospital and charity fete, and self-improvement in cooking and public speaking classes, that is more a criticism of its critics than of the WI. It can and should exert itself to appeal to the young and lively, but not to the point of being preoccupied

with image at the expense of service and fun.

Sponsors are seen as a source of support to supplement declining subscriptions. Leaders rather defensively point out that the National Theatre and Covent Garden accept business subsidy. It has its place for the WI too, but the relationship is more complex. For in the wider sense of the word the WI is very much a political organization, with a campaigning record on social issues that would do credit to any national pressure group.

It has sought from the start to encourage women to play a greater part in public life. It has operated skilfully in the margin between controversy and party politics. Partial, and possibly growing, economic dependence on sponsors creates the possibility of other tensions, not crude pressure of the "endorse our ketchup or lose your grant" kind, but subtler pressures to tailor the image, and perhaps the reality, to make the movement attractive to sponsors - to cultivate the affluent, to go easy on controversy, and so on. Those who suppose that advertisers need a long spoon: but there is too much common sense in the WI for there to be undue fear of its forgetting that, and letting itself be drawn away from its true character.

Nuclear war: the over-riding issue

From Professor John H. Humphrey, FRS, and others

Sir, A joined claim by the Chairman of the Conservative Party, Mr Neil Parkinson, in the face of a rising tide of Alliance support, is that Labour still has a chance in the end, that Parliamentary democracy we have fought for over the years, and to which we are accustomed, or the prime ministerial dictatorship we seem to be developing, which will tolerate no difference of opinion, whether from an elected local authority, or from a parliamentary colleague, or indeed from anyone else who might be thought to carry some weight.

Labour sits by grace and favour of the Junta, who slapped a preservation order on it years ago - conscious, so doubt, that it represents the best reason anyone is ever likely to find for voting Conservative. No doubt it would like to slap a preservation order on Mr Foot himself.

By the same token, all Labour leaders must be conscious that they have nothing much to fear from the Conservative government. They never did. A nagging doubt remains, however, in millions of millions, and it is one bit no Conservative leader has ever attempted to answer.

It is this. If Conservatives are as anti-socialist a laud as they claim, why do they prefer the Labour Party to electoral reform?

Yours &c,

GEORGE WATSON,

St John's College,

Cambridge.

June 1.

From Mr Stephen Carlill

Sir, One may have to be a comedian to support the Conservatives (letter, May 31) but it appears that in order to be a member of a Conservative cabinet the county qualifications are needed. In my conversation with a very "dry" Conservative I expressed admiration for one of the "wet" Conservative ex-cabinet members - a fiscal, cultured and highly intelligent man. In reply the "dry" Conservative said: "Mr ... is indeed - he's got a sense of humour".

Yours faithfully,

STEPHEN CARLILL,

7 Tenison Road,

Cambridge.

May 31.

Dual-key missiles

From Lord Kennet

Sir, Marshal of the RAF, Sir William Dickson, writes (June 2) that "the understanding about joint decision making" on the launching of United States nuclear weapons from Britain "has satisfied the heads of all governments of both our nations since 1951". It did not satisfy Mr Macmillan when he was Prime Minister and insisted on a dual-key arrangement for the American Thor missiles stationed here in 1958.

The present government says that to have a dual-key (as 96 per cent of people want) on the cruise missiles now would mean we should have to buy them. When the Government is asked if it has suggested a dual-key without buying them it does not answer.

Mr Hoseltine's repeated comparisons of the trust the United States shows for us in selling us Trident missiles without dual-key, with the mistrust we in the SDP/Liberal Alliance show for them in asking for dual-key on the cruise missiles, is a smokescreen. The Trident system (if we proceed with the purchase) would consist of British warheads fired from British boats using British bases. The cruise system (if we accept it) would consist of American warheads fired by American missiles from British soil.

Does anyone think the United States would not require a dual-key on a wholly British nuclear weapon system stationed fifty miles west of New York?

Yours etc,

WAYLAND KENNET,

House of Lords.

June 2.

Hedge against loss

From Mr Mark Tottewell

Sir, I was amused by the well-written irony of Mr Peter Adorian's letter (May 23), but I feel that his considerable sense of humour should not be allowed to conceal one vital point. There is an important difference between an automatic washing machine and a flail hedge cutter. They both save considerable time and effort, but the former does its particular job adequately, the latter does not.

I am sure Mr Adorian is aware, if he continues to flail-wash his hedges instead of hand-laying them, they will eventually grow woody, straggly and thinly spaced, losing both their visual appeal and their efficiency as barriers. They both save considerable time and effort, but the former does its particular job adequately, the latter does not.

This is his right, but I hope he would not have the audacity to claim that either result would be "rather attractive".

Yours faithfully,

MARK TOTTEDDELL,

Clarke Hill,

North Curry,

Taunton,

Somerset.

May 24.

Equitable rating

From Councillor Richard Clarke

Sir, Having, during the last 12 months, introduced two motions directed firstly towards expanding the financial base for local property taxation and secondly towards establishing greater local control over local expenditure, I welcome your leader "Rate of decline" of May 24.

As you rightly say, none of the main parties address themselves seriously to the question of local revenue for local expenditure and from their utterances now and over recent years one can only conclude that, whilst giving lip service to local democracy, all parties are intent on gathering ever greater power to the

Labour's interest in a Tory victory

From Mr George Watson

Sir, Perhaps the real election issue is, or if not, ought to be, not so much which party's policies we support, as what style of government we want to see over the next four years: the Parliamentary democracy we have fought for over the years, and to which we are accustomed, or the prime ministerial dictatorship we seem to be developing, which will tolerate no difference of opinion, whether from an elected local authority, or from a parliamentary colleague, or indeed from anyone else who might be thought to carry some weight.

Labor sits by grace and favour of the Junta, who slapped a preservation order on it years ago - conscious, so doubt, that it represents the best reason anyone is ever likely to find for voting Conservative. No doubt it would like to slap a preservation order on Mr Foot himself.

Fortunately, owing to the emergence of a third possible choice in the shape of the Alliance, we can if we so wish express our distaste of the new style of government without having to vote for the Labour Party which policies we may not feel able to support.

By the same token, all Labour leaders must be conscious that they have nothing much to fear from the Conservative government. They never did. A nagging doubt remains, however, in millions of millions, and it is one bit no Conservative leader has ever attempted to answer.

It is this. If Conservatives are as anti-socialist a laud as they claim, why do they prefer the Labour Party to electoral reform?

Yours faithfully,

EVELYN SHARP,

The Old Post Office,

6 High Street,

Lavenham,

Suffolk.

May 30.

From Professor Sir John Butterfield

Sir, If the polls are to be believed,

those worthy defenders of our democracy in the past - the floating voters - have disappeared, netted by the major parties. If the results are correct, congratulations to the major parties, the media and the pollsters on a remarkable achievement in communication. But is it really true that only 5 per cent of the electorate is uncommitted? The implied 95 per cent response rate is hardly credible to someone used to medical enquiries involving questions put to truly random samples of the electoral roll across the country over the last 20 years.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN BUTTERFIELD,

Cambridge University School of

Clinical Medicine,

Addenbrooke's Hospital,

Hills Road,

Cambridge.

May 30.

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St John's College,

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Investment
and
FinanceCity Editor
Anthony Hilton

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 688.7 down 5.9
FT Cities 82.55 up 0.38
FT All Shares 432.23 down
1.75

Bergalma 19.190

Tring Hall USM Index 167.0
down 1.3Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones
Index 8,517.88 down 31.82Hongkong Hang Seng Index
919.34 down 3.31New York Dow Jones Average
(latest) 1,205.93 up 3.72

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5835 down 70 pds
Index 86.8 down 0.8

DM 0.0225 down 0.0325

FrF 12.09 down 0.11

Yen 377.50 down 4.25

Dollar

Index 124.4 down 0.4

DM 2.5373 down 116 pds

Gold

\$413 unchanged

NEW YORK LATEST
Gold \$410.00

Sterling \$1.5910

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates

Base rates 10

3 month interbank 10% - 10%

Euro-currency rates

3 month dollar 9% - 9%

3 month DM 5% - 5%

3 month 15% - 15%

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling

Export Finance Scheme IV

Average reference rate for

interest period April 6 to May 3

1983 inclusive: 10.304 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Fitch Lovell 153p up 3p
H Samuel 'A' 120p up 8p

Assoc News 303p up 10p

Black & Decker 79p up 11p

Air Call 340p up 22p

Lon Liv Trust 142p down 3p

BP 364p down 2p

Beecham 380p down 28p

GKN 155p down 3p

Hawker 364p down 5p

TODAY

Interim Dobson Park Industries, Johnson and Birth, Firth Brown, Messina

Finals Computer and Systems Engineering, Dwek Group, Garsford-Liley Industries, Keep Investment Trust

Economic statistics: Unemployment (May, provisional), unfilled vacancies (May, provisional), Car and Commercial vehicle production (April, final).

NOTEBOOK

Habitat Mothercare, the retailing group, reported a 24 per cent increase in pretax profits at £22.95m calculated on an annual basis.

UBM, one of Britain's biggest builders' merchants, turned last year's £2m loss into a £2.8m profit before tax. The group, with an enhanced market rating, is looking for diversification.

Page 12

Options go-ahead for unit trusts

Unit trusts have been given the go-ahead to invest in traded options. The Secretary of State for Trade has issued a general permission for trusts to invest in traded options following three years of negotiations between the Unit Trust Association and the Department of Trade.

Standard clauses to be inserted in trust deeds are still being agreed with the DoT but should be completed within the next few days and circulated to UTA members.

WINE FLOWS: Sales of table wines in Britain rose by more than 24 million litres in the 12 months to February 1-1, an increase of 8.31 per cent over the previous year, according to the Wine and Spirit Association. However, sales of sherry and vermouth declined by more than 11 per cent to 90.6 million litres.

BTR VETO: BTR and its associates now control more than 25 per cent of Thomas Tilling, the company said. It is now in a position to block any sale of associate companies by Tilling.

BISHOP'S LOSS: Food retailers Bishop's, which has 70 shops, has lost more on wholesaling, baking and central computer costs than it made through its supermarkets. The result is a loss of £919,000 after tax and extraordinary items for the year to February 26, against a profit of £426,000.

DUNLOP YES: Shareholders of Dunlop Holdings have voted overwhelmingly to approve the company's report and accounts for 1982 and to re-elect for Colin Hope, director of the European tyre division, to the board, in the poll demanded at the company's annual meeting on Tuesday.

WALL STREET

Opening rush steadies

New York (AP-DJ) - Stocks held steady in early trading as analysts continued to watch interest rates closely.

Treasury issues also traded below their opening highs. Fed funds were at 8.75 where they opened.

The Dow Jones industrial average was up about 3.5 points at 1,205.52. It had been up six earlier. The transportation average was up a fraction.

Advancing issues were seven to three ahead of declines.

Turnover slowed from active trading in the opening moments to a more moderate rate. In the first hour about 25 million shares changed hands, about a million more than the same time on Wednesday.

The market is strong because of the decline in interest rates in recent months". Mr John Groome, senior vice-president of US Trust Co, said.

"However, I don't look for any substantial decline in rates from here. We've had the major move down already."

"I don't want to be too pessimistic", he said, "but I do think the easiest path for the market is going to be down from here on out."

However, Mr Malcolm C. Wilson, vice-president and director of Equity Research for Provident National Bank in Philadelphia, said: "We don't see a significant correction in the immediate future."

The retailers advanced on reports of healthy sales increases in May. Woolworth was up 1.125 at 32.75, R. H. Macy up 0.375 at 51.125, and K. Mart up 1.375 at 32.

Upjohn was ahead 1.875 to 62.125, Boeing up 1.25 at 42.5, Scott Industries up 1.625 at 30.25, Ford up 1.25 at 30, and Chrysler up 0.5 at 26.875.

Trading improves at BP

By Michael Prest

Higher production from the North Sea and lower losses from its chemical and refined product sales helped British Petroleum double first-quarter profits, adjusted for the cost of replacing oil stocks. It increased its figure from £102m in 1982 to £201m in 1983.

On the more commonly used historical cost basis, however, pretax profits were only £3m higher at £433m. But these figures include stock losses estimated by the industry at £102m - incurred when the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries cut its price last March.

BP has insisted for a long while that the replacement-cost figure gives a clearer indication of the underlying trend. The difference is highlighted by the importance of Sohio, BP's American subsidiary. Sohio's net contribution in the quarter was £113m (up from £101m), more than the BP's group's profit before extraordinary items of £74m (against £21m) on the historical cost convention.

But while Sohio's oil production and revenue fell, the effect being masked by the appreciation of the dollar, BP's share of production from the North Sea rose from an average of 440,000 barrels per day to 496,000 barrels per day. Operating profit from these and related operations was £303m compared with £252m.

The most important changes, however, were the previously very troubled oil products and chemicals divisions, which City analysts now believe to be on the mend. Although demand for oil products is still depressed, trading losses fell from £114m to £15m.

Sharp rise in company liquidity

By Our Economics Correspondent

British companies are emerging from the recession and are in the most comfortable financial position since the economic downturn began, a new official survey suggests.

Company liquidity improved sharply in the first quarter of this year to its best level since mid-1979, with the bulk of the improvement coming in the

Marathon consortium to secure 5,000 oil jobs

£1,700m investment for N Sea

JEDDAH

THE TIMES FRIDAY JUNE 3 1983

BUSINESS NEWS

17

Formal offer rejected copy

Trafalgar attacks P&O's financial position and 'poor management'

By Our Financial Staff

Trafalgar House, owner of 56m galleon, its £550m Tilting takeover bid Britain's largest underwritten.

"I can't give you figures, but we now have the results of an independent valuation of our assets which shows Trafalgar's terms are insufficient," Mr Brooks said.

Mr Nigel Brookes, Trafalgar chairman, said that P & O was in a financial straitjacket. It had a weak financial position, had reported an 18 per cent profits drop for last year and had assets valued at £150m more than they were worth.

But Trafalgar's all-share bid launched early last month is still viewed by the City as a sight shot. At last night's price of 17p, Trafalgar's five-for-four share swap values P & O's shares closed last night at 20p, after dipping to 17p.

Mr Oliver Brooks, managing director of P & O said: "We still think this is a derisory offer. I believe P & O's present predicament is largely attributable to poor management which offers no evidence to suggest that it is capable of reversing the company's flagging fortunes."

Contrasting the two businesses, Trafalgar says that Bovis, P & O's construction and house-building group, has produced an erratic profits record that the group's £300m worth of ship-



Takeover rivals: P&O's

Trafalgar's Brookes.

Trafalgar's assets contributed only

to reporting another

year to last year's pretax profits

and that its oil and gas business

constituted only of trading oil

products since its sale of its

interest in the North Sea's

Beaufort field.

As for Trafalgar itself, the

company said that it looked

annual meeting on

fears that the Federal Reserve

may tighten credit.

In light trading because of

holidays in some European

centres, sterling also met some

profit-taking, falling 70 points to

4.0225 against the dollar

and 351/4 pence to DM

4.0225 against the German

currency. Its trade-weighted

value slipped 0.6 to 86.8.

Although the gilts market

recovered modestly yesterday

moving after the overnight rise

in United States bond markets,

dealers said the new stock was

still expensive, judging either as

a short or a long.

Investors were not prepared

to pay a premium for the

conversion option - a device

the Government has been using

to avoid crowding out industry

from the long bond market.

However, dealers expected

some switching today in to the

sharp fall in the FT 3-share index.

Brokerage, which has been

exceptionally strong growth

in the United States where

strong growth from both phar-

maceuticals and consumer

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cent to £237.1m.

Under the rules of the City

Panel on Takeovers and Mer-

gers, Linfield had to make an

offer within three weeks of

gaining clearance for the bid

from the Monopolies Com-

mission. This deadline expired

at midnight last night.

But yesterday afternoon it

appeared that Linfield had

persuaded the panel to extend

the deadline, and was supported

in its application for an

extension by the potential

victim, Fitch Lovell.

The panel agreed to the

extension rather than risk being

caught in a legal t

AB ELECTROLUX

Improved results anticipated for 1983

At the Annual General Meeting of AB Electrolux, held in Stockholm on Thursday, 26th May 1983, a dividend of S.Kr. 9.00 per share was approved (S.Kr. 8.00 last year) payable 7th June 1983. In his address to the Shareholders, the Managing Director, Mr. Anders Scharp said he anticipates considerably improved results for 1983. He continued:-

"1983 has got off to a good start: turnover for the first four months is 20 per cent up on the same period last year, acquired and sold companies being taken into account. Results have shown a very positive development and the first quarter's are considerably up on the previous year. This has been caused by market developments in certain areas, an improved position regarding costs and utilisation of capacity, and lower net financial expense. Market developments in the USA have been particularly positive with increased sales volumes as a result. On the other hand no upswing has been evident in Europe with the exception of Great Britain where the market has improved."

Vacuum cleaners, white goods, absorption refrigerators, sewing machines and industrial products show a healthy upturn in results while chain saws and commercial services have remained at high level. Graenges has turned a first quarter 1982 loss to a profit in 1983.

Provided that present trends continue - an upswing in world trade, sinking inflation and interest rates within the OECD, stable oil-prices etc., we anticipate considerably improved results with a higher yield in 1983."

Chief Executive Officer Goesta Bystedt described Electrolux' capital needs. He stated that the objective is to maintain the equity/assets ratio at 25 per cent, which is sufficient for the structure and risk-spreading of the company.

"Bearing in mind the target equity/assets ratio, we anticipate being able to achieve an annual expansion of 15 per cent. At this rate of expansion, there will not now be any new share issues either in the USA or Sweden."

The Group's dividend policy remains unchanged and means that the dividend will follow the growth of equity capital. During the past ten years, the dividend has increased by 14 per cent per annum."

Messrs. Goesta Bystedt, Harry Eriksson, Nils Holgersson, Sven Olving, Jacob Palmstierna, Anders Scharp, Peter Wallenberg and Hans Werther were re-elected to the Board of Directors. Mr. Edward L. Palmer, Citibank N.A., New York, U.S.A. was elected as a new member of the Board.

Mrs. Birgit Malmenstam-Skyyti and Claes Dahlbeck, Managing Director of AB Investor were elected Deputy Members of the Board. Mr. Bo Abramsson did not stand for re-election.

Messrs. Rolf Karlsson and Hans Seoderqvist continued as members of the Board and Messrs. Per-Olof Edman and Runo Eriksson as Deputy Members representing the employees.

Electrolux shares are quoted on the London Stock Exchange and the price listed daily in this newspaper of mid-June from morning Brokers & Co., Limited, 3 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4AE.



The Directors of
Bankers Trustee Company Limited
are pleased to announce that

Anthony G. Buckland

formerly of Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance plc
has joined the Board as of 1st June 1983
as Managing Director of

Bankers Trustee Company Limited



AUSTRIAN ELECTRICITY U.S.\$15,000,000 6% Guaranteed Bonds 1983

S.G. WARBURG & CO. LTD. announce that the redemption instalment of \$5,000,000 due by 1st July, 1983 has been met by purchases on the market of the nominal value of U.S.\$10,000,000.

The distinctive numbers of the Bonds, drawn in the presence of a Notary Public, are as follows:-

11 to 342	790 to 796	798 to 801	803 to 804	807 to 811
819 to 827	831 to 837	847 to 856	858 to 862	865 to 868
872 to 883	885 to 890	893 to 896	895 to 900	907 to 922
1025 to 1029	1034 to 1039	1040 to 1050	1054 to 1062	1064 to 1090
1026 to 1100	1131 to 1151	1156 to 1166	1168 to 1170	1182 to 1190
1174 to 1180	1181 to 1187	1193 to 1200	1209 to 1220	1239 to 1258
1258 to 1267	1259 to 1262	1269 to 1308	1314 to 1320	1321 to 1358
1272 to 1279	1274 to 1274	1278 to 1279	1287 to 1287	1290 to 1290
13026 to 13027	12887 to 12888	12946 to 12980	12985 to 12988	12989 to 12990
13063 to 13065	13070 to 13072	13094 to 13095	13096 to 13101	13097 to 13101
13487 to 13493	13489 to 13493	13493 to 13501	13465 to 13468	13471 to 13481
13564 to 13565	13596 to 13599	13622 to 13624	13629 to 13632	13634 to 13670
13674 to 13675	13674 to 13676	13688 to 13710		

On 1st July, 1983 there will become due and payable upon each Bond sum for redemption, the principal amount thereof together with accrued interest to said date at the office of:-

S.G. WARBURG & CO. LTD.,
30, Gresham Street, London, EC2P 2EB.

or one of the other paying agents named on the Bonds.

Interest will cease to accrue on the Bonds called for redemption on and after 1st July, 1983 and Bonds so presented for payment must have attached all coupons maturing after that date.

U.S.\$2,700,000 nominal amount of Bonds will remain outstanding after 1st July, 1983.

The following Bonds previously drawn for redemption on the dates stand below have not as yet been presented for payment:-

Due 1st July, 1981

2130 to 2149 2227 2500

Due 1st July, 1982

13920 13931 to 13937

14783 14932 to 14835

14946 14782

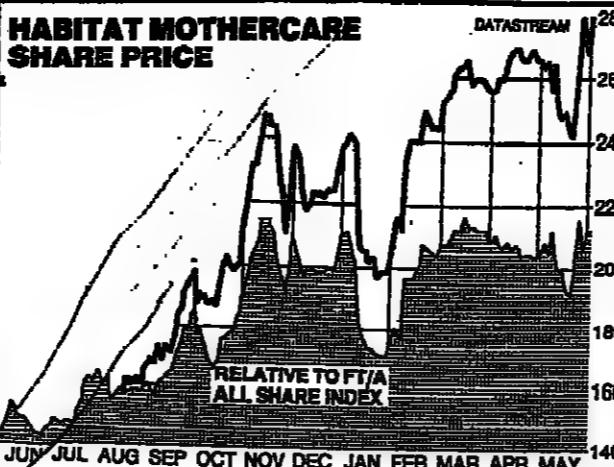
14947

3rd June, 1983

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Sandy McLachlan

Habit regains its premium rating

Habitat Moth
Year to 31.3.83
Pre-tax profit £22.95m
Stated earnings 13.5p
Turnover £309.7m (£)
Net annualised divide
Share price 280p u
2.7%



To recall the wid
criticism that great
merger with Mot
over a year ago doe
a long memory. Bu
which it sent Habit
price perhaps do
release of nine mo
from the group w
shares rose 12p to 2
Both the Habit
Mothercare parts u
performed except
during the period
appears to be d
than because of i
between Habit's
and Mothercare
systems, and
redundancies.
flaunted as the m
the marriage w
fund managers w
back to it in Janu
In order to make
meaningful, Habit
figures to Mot
treated the ye
though Mothercare
in the group for t
On that basis, p
24 per cent p.m.

Within that, it ha
been the outstan
with trading pro
cent ahead. That i
to reduced losse
States and to a c
from the dirth th
company was g
before the merge.

The original Habit
side of the group
continues to go fr
strength to stren
Even stripping ou
opened stores, its
volume sales

in Britain rose 14 per cent last

If that formula can be
successfully applied to
Mothercare, it is still nascent

Habitat business in the States

and to the newly-acquired Heals

company, the City's new-found

confidence will be more than

justified.

UBM Group

Year to 28.2.83
Pre-tax profit £2.6m (22m loss)
Stated earnings 2.2p (1.6p) (loss)
Turnover £29.5m (£)
Net final dividend 1.2p making
2.2p (2p)
Share price 83p up 1.5p 3.3%
Dividend payable 15.7.83

UBM Group, one of

Britain's largest builders'

merchants, has continued

its modest turnaround

at the interim stage. Full year

results to February 28 show that

the group managed pre tax

profits of £2.6m against the £2m loss recorded in the previous year.

Much of the improvement
can be traced back to the
reorganization of UBM's busi
nesses under the guidance of Mr
Roger Pinnington, who took

over as chief executive early last

year.

The new slimline structure of

6,000 employees has 2,000

fewer staff than two years ago.

During the last 12 months 500

jobs disappeared as loss-making

depots were closed at Croydon

and Barking.

The full benefits also accrued from the

closure of the Derby and

Bradford depots, which were

charged to the previous year's

accounts.

This time round, UBM has

shown extraordinary profits of

£1m from property sales com

pared with the heavy £3.3m

provision for closures and

redundancies the previous year.

However, the most startling

effect of the newly efficient

organisation has been on the

level of borrowings, which are

down from a 1982 peak of £30m

to £15m today (about 22 per

cent of shareholders' funds).

The new confidence in the

group's future is shown by the

payment of an improved final

dividend of 1.2p per share,

making 2.2p for the year against

2.0p last time. Significantly, last

year's dividend was paid from

reserves. This time the im
proved dividend leaves £1m to

be carried into reserves.

Looking to the future, UBM's

traditional builders' merchants

business needs little more than a

modest improvement in ac
tivity to achieve a gallop in

profits. Last year the division

made trading profits of £3.1m

after losses of £1.1m in the

previous year.

Nevertheless, the company be
lieves that the now lower dividend

level can be maintained. It also

hopes that it will benefit from cable

television developments.

Electronic Rentals trims dividend

By Our Financial Staff

Electronic Rentals has cut its dividend by a quarter for the year to the end of March. This comes after a drop in pretax profits to £12.1m from £15.6m the previous year, after taking into account losses of £2.4m on discontinued camping and leisure activities.

Colour television rental in Britain remains a problem with a decline in the number of subscribers after the ending of the hire purchase and rental regulations last July.

Paradoxically, success in placing video recorders and the need to replace older television sets on rental has led to a substantial increase in the depreciation charge - up by £10.4m to just under £60m.

The decline in the number of colour television rentals was highlighted in the group's interim statement and has continued.

Income from video recorders made up for the loss of income from colour television sets to the extent that rental income overall rose by 5 per cent in Britain, but marketing video in the face of heavy competition has been expensive.

The full cost of closing the camping and leisure

APPOINTMENTS

Promotion for RTZ director

Mr J D Birkin, a director of RTZ and chairman and managing director of Tunnel Holdings, has become deputy chief executive of RTZ.

Mr Mike Blackburn has been made director and chief executive of Access.

Mr R D MacLeod has been appointed to the board of directors of the English Association Trust.

Mr David J Watkins has been appointed a director of Kirkland-Whitaker.

Sir John Hoskyns has joined the board of directors of McKechnie Brothers. Sir John is a director of International Computers, the Clerical Medical and General Life Assurance Society and AGR Research.

Mr Jasper Meadows Chatterton has been appointed a director of Buckley's Brewery. Mr Henry Whitbread has retired from the board.

Mr A M Bottomley, Mr I J Leigh and Mr J A H M MacKenzie have been made directors of Scottish, English and European Textiles.

Mr Jeff Benson has become a non-executive director of the 600 Group. Mr Ted Goodwin has been appointed a director. Mr Leslie Davies has retired as deputy managing director but will still remain a board member. Mr Percy Levy has retired as a director but will act as consultant on public relations matters.

Mr R B Frame, senior partner Murray and Company has retired but will remain a consultant. Mr M R N Evans has been appointed a senior partner.

Mr Peter Osborne has become a director of Christie's Contemporary Art.

Mr Ron Kirby has been made director of public affairs of the Engineering Council.

Mr Roger Young has been elected chairman of the City of London branch of the British Institute of Management. Mr Simon Mason has been elected vice-chairman and Mr Michael Orbell honorary treasurer.

Mr John G Silk has been appointed chairman of Hill and Smith Holdings. Mr R Skidmore has become managing director.

Mr Peter Mitchell has been appointed business manager for the industrial process group of Diversy.

Ten years ago, seasoned exporters at Tehran's International Trade Fair broke the rule of a lifetime. They forced carrier bags full of expensively-produced, full-colour, Farsi-printed brochures on to the youths milling around their stands.

At any other event around the world, the youths would have been knuckled-up as useless catalogue collectors.

"We've discovered that a 16-year-old with two days growth of beard is likely to be the son of a multi-millionaire, would-be industrialist," one exporter said.

Today, the more awake members of the British export community have discovered something else: that the market which collapsed on them overnight three years ago is very much back on its feet again - and their sales are sprinting ahead.

Exports to Iran in the first three months of this year were £144m, a third-fold increase on the first quarter of 1982.

They have got a long way to go before getting anywhere near the real value of the £752m achieved in 1978 (a sale figure which slumped to £232m in 1979 after the Shah's departure).

But every signal suggests that Iran could be the surprise boom market for British exporters in the next two years - just as the Bonanza spot of the past two years, its war-oppoents Iraq, seems to be heading into decline.

Talbot has just added 80 workers to the 1,400 employed at Stoke-on-Trent, where 1,100 are directly engaged in building Hillman Hunter car kits for Iran. This year will see shipments approaching record levels of 100,000, under a contract worth £10 per annum.

Two United Kingdom trade missions have been in Iran this year, the first since the Ayatollah Khomeini came to power, and both were delighted with the warmth of their reception.

One from the Birmingham Chamber of Industry, which was over-subscribed within two days of being announced (an unheard-of event), returned on Tuesday.

The mission dispelled qualms about the level of competition. "The hotels are full of foreign businessmen," recalled Mr Derek Bullivant, who acted as secretary for the mission. "But

they're not holding any grudges."

"I have not been back since 1978, but they did not write me off as someone who hadn't done business there since."

"It is a country of 40m people

that now has a much more realistic appraisal of its real needs. They no longer talk about grandiose schemes, but about things like housing."

"There is a move away from large turnkey projects being handled by overseas contractors - although they have also made it clear that, if their own design consultants and contractors cannot handle something, they hold a list of reputable international firms."

Although all 15 mission members were kept busy from 9am to 10pm each day, Mr Roachard says that he wished he could have stayed another week, and will be going back.

The main message they brought back was that, with the United States, Russia and France out in the cold, the prospects for Britain look even better. Even Japan, said to have been blackmailing Iran to go below Opec prices for its oil, is not in good colour.

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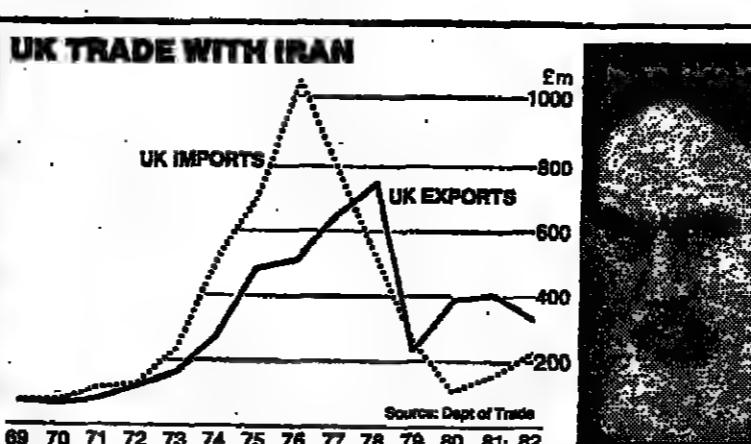
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UK TRADE WITH IRAN

Source: Dept of Trade

to take up the same position in Lebanon.

He does not have contacts with high-level ministers. But he knows the people who make things work in numerous organizations (and is anxious to get two sets of catalogues from companies, which he will guide into the right hands).

Most experts have economic rules-of-thumb. Do the local matches strike? Does the local taste more like Epsom salts?

With the liberalization of imports late last year, a centralized purchasing structure was imposed. But it has not suffocated trade in the way that similar set-ups have elsewhere. Indeed, within a few months of its coming into force, British exports had soared to £50m in December alone.

West Germany tops the sales league with 10 per cent, followed by Japan (even though it has been discriminated against recently for not quickly returning to complete a major project), with 7 per cent. France trails with 3 per cent.

The Ayatollah may have made a triumphant return courtesy of an Franco jumbo, but French support for Iraq has dulled their sales.

Five per cent worth getting fussed about? Well, Iran has pushed oil output back up to more than 2 million barrels a day - and is selling it. It has no foreign debts. And with well-identified sales areas (strictly excluding consumer goods, of course), it spent \$15 on imports last year.

This year, all the trade analysts are confident, it will spend \$20 billion.

Details of sectors in which sales can be made are available from the Department of Trade in London (telephone 01-215 7877). Its specialists have several free booklets on offer, and a list of firms offering free market advice.

NatWest published an economic guide in February, and the bank's senior executive responsible for Iran is Mr D G Staelle (telephone 01-920 5555, ext 885361). For details of private stances at September's Tehran fair, telephone Mr Andrew MacLean (0603 660277).

Economic notebook

Sterling and threats to real economy

"All our policies are designed to get inflation down, to restore honest money. If the exchange rate rises again then inflation is more likely to come down."

These words of Mrs Thatcher should strike a chill in the heart of the smug industrialist, just when he has convinced himself that economic recovery is on the way.

A strong pound will hit exports just as the recovery in world trade is beginning to appear, and divert even more home demand to cheaper imports. And it will make it much harder to improve profit margins cut to the bone by the severe recession. The impact on business confidence - and on plans to invest, produce and create jobs - could be devastating.

On rule of thumb figuring the 10 per cent appreciation since the Budget could knock 0.5 per cent off growth over the next 12 months (put by the Treasury 2.5 per cent), and more in future years. This is enough to make the difference between unemployment stabilising or continuing to climb, with economic, social and political consequences that are frightening to predict.

Mrs Thatcher is not easily frightened. But she is fond of facts. And some fascinating calculations by Mr Walter Eltis, of Oxford University, suggest that unless growth is fast enough to bring unemployment down, thereby boosting tax revenues and reducing spending on social security, Mrs Thatcher has no chance of redeeming her pledges to cut taxes.

On the contrary, Mr Eltis says: "If further years of potential growth are thrown away after 1983 with the object of reducing inflation to zero, taxes will have to rise sharply from their already high rates."

A re-elected Mrs Thatcher will be told by her officials that interest rates should be cut to keep sterling in bounds. Despite recent poor money supply figures financial conditions generally - including the strong pound - look tight, they will argue. The need for Mrs Thatcher to deliver on growth, jobs and taxes after four lean years - and to hasten more slowly towards her goal of price stability - is likely to tip the balance in their favour.

Frances Williams

that during the past three years, "He'll wear a sweater and not tie."

Many of the senior men you are going to meet in the new state agencies will be in their mid-thirties. Once you get past the ideological haranguing that precedes every meeting, you will find them likeable, friendly and nowhere near as green as they used to be," the exporter said.

Orders are not orders until a letter of credit arrives, but one mission member was assured of £250,000 worth of business, with "much, much more to come".

A visit can only be made if you are invited. Invitations can be fixed by an eight-strong and extremely active British Interests Section which is officially looked after, but is not actually in, the Swedish embassy. Taxi drivers get infuriated when they end up trying to drop you at a building with a blue-and-yellow flag on it.

Visas, or rather the getting of them, is a bind. They take up to 12 weeks to arrive - although Lloyds Bank International's Mr Allan Linger got one in record time last month. The Iranians had let it be known that they would like to see a two-way adviser on the Birmingham mission (it is easier to import, they explained, if we can show that we are also exporting). He joined the party just two days later.

For its part, the BIS may have lost most of its files - burn during an invasion by revolutionary guards - but not its sense of humour. A cartoon in one of its offices bears the caption: "They came in over that wall. Ethel made them a cup of tea. And they went out over that wall."

The BS is headed by Mr Nicholas Barrington, formerly ambassador in Cairo and soon

to take up the same position in Lebanon.

He does not have contacts with high-level ministers. But he knows the people who make things work in numerous organizations (and is anxious to get two sets of catalogues from companies, which he will guide into the right hands).

Most experts have economic rules-of-thumb. Do the local matches strike? Does the local taste more like Epsom salts?

With the liberalization of imports late last year, a centralized purchasing structure was imposed. But it has not suffocated trade in the way that similar set-ups have elsewhere. Indeed, within a few months of its coming into force, British exports had soared to £50m in December alone.

West Germany tops the sales league with 10 per cent, followed by Japan (even though it has been discriminated against recently for not quickly returning to complete a major project), with 7 per cent. France trails with 3 per cent.

The Ayatollah may have made a triumphant return courtesy of an Franco jumbo, but French support for Iraq has dulled their sales.

Five per cent worth getting fussed about? Well, Iran has pushed oil output back up to more than 2 million barrels a day - and is selling it. It has no foreign debts. And with well-identified sales areas (strictly excluding consumer goods, of course), it spent \$15 on imports last year.

This year, all the trade analysts are confident, it will spend \$20 billion.

Details of sectors in which sales can be made are available from the Department of Trade in London (telephone 01-215 7877). Its specialists have several free booklets on offer, and a list of firms offering free market advice.

NatWest published an economic guide in February, and the bank's senior executive responsible for Iran is Mr D G Staelle (telephone 01-920 5555, ext 885361). For details of private stances at September's Tehran fair, telephone Mr Andrew MacLean (0603 660277).

"All our policies are designed to get inflation down, to restore honest money. If the exchange rate rises again then inflation is more likely to come down."

These words of Mrs Thatcher should strike a chill in the heart of the smug industrialist, just when he has convinced himself that economic recovery is on the way.

A strong pound will hit exports just as the recovery in world trade is beginning to appear, and divert even more home demand to cheaper imports. And it will make it much harder to improve profit margins cut to the bone by the severe recession. The impact on business confidence - and on plans to invest, produce and create jobs - could be devastating.

Financial notebook

A new Tory government need not be so restrictive

The announcement on May 9 of the general election was followed not by a strong rise in the exchange rate and in the financial markets, as many had expected, but by a bout of nervousness in sterling and a sharp decline in the equity market.

With hindsight this reaction is easy to rationalize. The stock market had to a certain degree been discounting an early election, and the decline in the market in the three days following appeared to illustrate the City's belief in the banana skin theory of politics.

For the first time since 1945, Labour's alternatives were radically different from economic policies of the Conservative Party. The caution induced by such a polarization between the two main parties was perhaps reinforced by a view, rightly or wrongly, that the Alliance's strategy represented nothing more than a resurrection of the "failed" liberal economic policies of the 1960s and 1970s.

Given that, in varying degrees, both opposition parties are considered to be soft on the exchange rate and inflation, it is perhaps not too surprising that in the first two weeks of the campaign the market studiously ignored the large Conservative lead in the opinion polls.

This situation was transformed as investors became convinced of a Government victory, and sterling, gilts and equities all subsequently registered sharp gains. Despite later alarms about American interest rates, with a week to go to polling, it is a highly opportune moment to examine the likely course of economic policy the Conservatives win an overall majority.

The view has been gaining ground among analysts that if this Government is re-elected it will introduce tougher monetary and fiscal policies which would put upwards pressure on interest rates. On the face of it, this would appear to be sound view as the Conservative manifesto states: "Our ultimate goal should be society with stable prices."

Monetary policy has been much more lax over the past 18 months and, if anything, has become even looser in recent

An economist looks at the likely course of economic policy if Mrs Thatcher is re-elected

months. Since the start of the new target period in February, money supply growth has accelerated sharply and is growing at between 14.5 per cent and 23 per cent, depending upon which of the three targeted measures are favoured.

So far the main culprit has been some disquieting figures on government borrowing. Not only did the 1982/83 out-turn comfortably exceed the Treasury's estimate by £1.7bn, but April's Central Government Borrowing Requirement proved to be excessive as well.

Such a turn of events reinforces the projection that this year's borrowing requirement could overshoot its £8.3bn target by £2bn. Consequently, it is small wonder that the monetarists are now coming out of the woodwork in City bank offices warning that the authorities will have to tighten policy merely to prevent a re-acceleration in inflation, let alone to achieve their apparent aim of price stability.

Although the sharp drop in inflation has had a lot to do with the Government's monetary policy, for which it deserves full credit, it has had little to do with money supply per se.

Allowing for the monetarist's "long and variable" time lag, the growth rates in the various money supply figures would imply that inflation should now be anywhere between 9 per cent and 13 per cent.

However, some time ago this Government recognised that the link between money and prices was nowhere near as simple as this. During periods of severe recession, high real interest rates and high exchange rates, the monetary figures are heavily distorted and their usefulness as a guide of policy considerably diminished.

Consequently, the Government has placed great emphasis on the level of the exchange rate

as an indicator of the tightness of monetary and budgetary policy.

In the light of this, the following points should be borne in mind by those who expect a more restrictive stance:

● There is a great danger that a Conservative victory would induce another overshoot in sterling similar, in all but magnitude, to that which occurred in 1980/81.

● Britain already has one of the tightest fiscal policies in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

● The pound had by the end of May recovered over 75 per cent of the depreciation which occurred between November and March and, even at these levels, forecasters can soon be expected to start paring back their output and profit forecasts.

The authorities also can probably afford to be more relaxed than the pessimists suggest about borrowing through the gilt-edged markets.

While monetary expansion has been high recently, the growth in loan demand over the past two months has fallen quite sharply.

Help may also be forthcoming in the form of better than expected news on prices. The low underlying increase revealed by the retail price index, the recovery and prospective strength in sterling and the absence of the projected cyclical rise in retailers' margins would suggest that most forecasters have been far too pessimistic in projecting a rise in inflation to 6.5 per cent - 8 per cent in the first half of 1984.

It now looks as though inflation will rise much more modestly and peak again at around 6 per cent in the second quarter of next year, than fall back to 5 per cent six months later.

If one adds this better outlook for inflation to the other positive factors, the odds must now be on a reduction rather than an increase in British interest rates over the next 12 months.

Keith Jones
Chief Economist, James Capel
and Company

The Industrial Bank of Japan Finance Company N.V.

US\$50,000,000

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In accordance with the provisions of the Reference Agency Agreement between The Industrial Bank of Japan Finance Company N.V., The Industrial Bank of Japan Limited and Citibank, N.A. dated November 28, 1978, notice is hereby given that the Rate of Interest has been fixed at 10 1/2% p.a., and that the Interest payable on the relevant Interest Payment Date, December 5, 1983, against Coupon No. 10 will be US\$52.35.

June 3, 1983, London
By: Citibank, N.A. (CSSI Dept), Reference Agent CITIBANK

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10 %
Barclays	10 %
BCCI	10 %
Consolidated Crds	10 %
C. Hoare & Co	*10 %
Lloyds Bank	10 %
Midland Bank	10 %
Nat Westminster	10 %
TSB	10 %
Williams & Glyn's	10 %

* 7 day deposit in sums of under \$10,000. 9.5% deposit up to \$10,000. 9.75% deposit and over \$10,000.

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THE TIMES FRIDAY JUNE 3 1983

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Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

General

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TALBOT TAGORA 2.2 GL

7,000 miles, 11,000 miles, 11,000 miles.

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TDF CONVERSO

1982, 6,000 miles, 11,000 miles.

1982, 11,000 miles, 11,000 miles.

RANGER ROVER

1982, 11,000 miles, 11,000 miles.

1982, 11,000 miles, 11,000 miles.

RANGER ROVER

1982, 11,000 miles, 11,000 miles.

Averell Harriman helps to bridge Cold War divide

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet party leader, yesterday met Mr Averell Harriman, the veteran American Kremlin-watcher, and told him the Soviet Union was "ready and interested in a joint search" for initiatives with the United States which would make the present situation easier. The meeting lasted an hour and 20 minutes.

Mr Harriman later addressed a packed news conference and said he had found Mr Andropov "cordial, blunt and frank", with an impressive grasp of affairs.

Mr Harriman's British-born wife, the former Mrs Randolph Churchill, sat beside him looking remarkably like Mrs Margaret Thatcher, in a sky-blue dress and pearls. It must have given Mr Andropov quite a turn. Mrs Harriman said she found the Soviet leader vigorous, sunburnt and taller than she had expected, with a good sense of humour.

It was extraordinary to think the world was waiting on the word of a frail but spry man of 91 who had first come to Russia as a boy in 1899. But Mr Harriman is no ordinary American: he was Ambassador to Moscow during the Second World War, and has now met every Soviet leader since Stalin.

Since the Russians and Americans are not talking to each other nowadays they have to use intermediaries, and Mr Harriman's mission to Moscow is part of an attempt by the Kremlin and the White House to take across the barriers on confrontation.

Mr Harriman said he was not a "carrier of messages", but admitted he had met Mr George

Shultz, the American Secretary of State, before leaving Washington.

At the meeting with Mr Andropov, attended only by Mrs Harriman, an Andropov aide and an interpreter, the Soviet leader had been "frank in expressing concern about the state of relations between us".

Mr Andropov then expressed "the sincere and fervent desire of the Soviet Union" to develop normal relations with America in the best traditions of the past.

Mr Harriman was asked if he could be more specific about what he thought constituted a normal relationship. With the long experience of diplomacy and a governorship behind him, Mr Harriman said he had agreed with Mr Andropov that the thing to do was to start with solvable problems, not insurmountable ones. Did the soluble questions include arms control? Mr Harriman would not be drawn.

Mr Andropov has met no senior American official since he talked to Mr George Bush, the Vice-President, at the funeral of President Brezhnev in Moscow last November. Did Mr Harriman think this meant Soviet-American relations had sunk to their lowest level since the Cold War? He pondered this, looking down the avenue of the years to Stalin and beyond, and replied with a grin that it was "not clear to me when the Cold War started and when it ended".

Mr Harriman said he had been to Russia five times in the 1970s, and would come again if it helped to improve matters. Mrs Harriman said that was enough questions for now, but Mr Harriman, though a good 20 years older than most members of the geriatric Soviet Politburo, was happy to talk about the "good times" between Moscow and Washington in the past and his hopes that they might return.

● WASHINGTON: Dr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, is to explore in Moscow next month the possibility of a summit meeting between President Reagan and Mr Andropov, Nicholas Ashford writes.

According to West German sources, Dr Kohl raised the issue during private talks with Mr Reagan during the Williamsburg summit earlier this week.

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Letters, page 15



The 'vicious' game - but to competitors in the Matens inter-county croquet championships at Southwick Park, Sussex, it is a matter requiring down-to-earth exactitude and getting a grip on the problem. Photographs: Brian Harris.

Healey condemned for Falklands outburst

Continued from page 1

sinking of the Argentine cruiser Belgrano on May 2 last year.

But at a press conference largely devoted to the Belgrano sinking, Mrs Thatcher rejected the request out of hand. She repeated that the cruiser was sunk because it posed a threat to the task force, in spite of the fact that it was six hours' sailing time from striking distance. "Six hours is a

long time," she said. "I am greatly relieved that the question you are not asking me today is how it is one of our aircraft carriers was sunk, and then, my goodness me, there would have been not only an

inquiry, but grief on a scale we have not contemplated."

● WASHINGTON: Dr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, is to explore in Moscow next month the possibility of a summit meeting between President Reagan and Mr Andropov, Nicholas Ashford writes.

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Thatcher was "glorifying in slaughter" (David Felton writes).

Mr Foot said that the Belgrano should be treated as an issue on its own, separate from the government's conduct during the war. Asked as he toured

the constituency of Mrs Shirley Williams at Crosby, near Liverpool.

Bristol yesterday whether he agreed with Mr Healey, Mr Foot said he could understand why feelings ran so high when 500 of the 6,000 merchant seamen who volunteered for Falklands duty were now on the dole.

● The next government should hold negotiations over the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands, Dr David Owen, Alliance foreign affairs spokesman, said yesterday (Barrie Clement writes).

The Alliance would explore the possibility of a United Nations administration, he told a press conference in the constituency of Mrs Shirley Williams at Crosby, near Liverpool.

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Alliance gains six points

Continued from page 1

"Even I was astonished that the Alliance, which claims integrity and purity as personified by Mr Jenkins and Mr Steel individually should have gone in for this exercise today," he said.

"It is not concerned with statistical judgment. It is what is known in the advertising trade and the seedy end of marketing as a 'hype', what you are doing in making extravagant claims about the position in the hope that some gullible fool will be deceived into believing them."

"That seems a deeply disreputable way of fighting an election."

Mr Hattersley said there was one poll, "pushed by Jenkins and Steel", which had a sample of little more than 500 people who were approached by telephone.

Yet Labour Party polls showed that among the big selection of the population which did not have a telephone the Labour Party had a lead of 14 per cent.

"A poll which excludes contact with the telephone-less section of the community, a group of people whose social position inevitably makes them strongly Labour, is not likely to give an honest result," Mr Hattersley said.

If one looked at the record of this poll, on which Alliance leaders were basing their claims, it had consistently given the Alliance a 3 or 4 per cent lead, and had consistently reduced the position of the Labour Party. Mr Hattersley said he was sure that the Alliance leaders would continue to make these false claims, but it was a disreputable way of campaigning.

To be fair, Mr David Steel, at the Alliance press conference earlier, had been less than enthusiastic about the poll taken for TV-AM by Audience Selection, which gathers opinion by telephone calls.

He was asked to comment on the validity of a poll taken on such a small sample. "All polls are suspect because they are all taken on small samples," Mr Steel said. "All they do, reliably, is to indicate a trend."

"I expected the trend to be upwards and the trend has turned up. It is going to continue going up."

"We represent the same sort of values that the Labour Party once stood for, and people are coming over to us for that reason."

Rembrandt offer fuels anger in art world

By Frances Gribble

Controversy over the threat to the British heritage posed by the huge wealth of American museums was fired yesterday with the disclosure of an offer for one of the country's most valued paintings, a Rembrandt portrait (below) estimated to be worth £3.5m.

The owner of the work, which is on loan to the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, was approached about selling by Mr Marshall Spink, a London dealer, acting as an agent.

Last week Lord Normanby, chairman of the National Art Collections Fund, cited the case of a recent offer on behalf of an American museum of £2.5m for a painting valued at £2.5m in this country.

British museums and heritage bodies, were powerless to stop the export of works in the face of such "Getty-enhanced offers," he said referring to the wealth of the J. Paul Getty museum, Malibu.

The Rembrandt painting, a life-size portrait signed and inscribed 1657, of Catharina Hooghsaet, a member of a Protestant sect called the Mennonites, belongs to Lady Janet Douglas Pennant, heiress of much of the Penrhyn estate. It is one of the 20 most important paintings in the country.

Her husband Mr John Douglas Pennant confirmed they had been approached about selling but said they had no intention of doing so.



Averell Harriman, aged 91, who has met every Soviet leader since Stalin.

Today's events

The Duke of Edinburgh opens the Field Studies Centre of the Society for the Protection of Nature, Connah's Quay, Clwyd, 9.30; as Patron visits the headquarters of British Shooting and Conservation Association for Shooting and Conservation, Rossett, Clwyd, 10.30.

The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Parachute Regiment, presents new Colours to the 10th (V)

Battalion The Parachute Regiment, Duke of York's Headquarters, London, 10.

Queen Elizabeth II, Queen Mother has luncheon at University College London, to mark its 150th anniversary, 12.30.

Princess Margaret visits the Cathedral at Bury St Edmunds, and the Theatre Royal, 11.30.

The Duke of Gloucester, flies to Ottawa, to attend centenary cele-

brations of the St John Ambulance in Canada, departs Northolt, 12.

The Duchess of Gloucester opens Norfolk-Robins Music Therapy Centre, Leighton Place, London, 1.30; as Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Army Educational Corps, attends a dinner, Wilton Park, Beckenham, 7.30.

Emperor Hirohito of Japan visits the Belgrano, Royal Garden Hotel, London, 8.30.

Prince and Princess Michael of Kent attend Combined Cadet Force Trooping the Colour, Elton College, 9.30pm.

According to West German sources, Dr Kohl raised the issue during private talks with Mr Reagan during the Williamsburg summit earlier this week.

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Edinburgh Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers exhibition, City Arts Centre, Market Street, Edinburgh. Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends tomorrow).

Etchings by Stephen Whittle and original prints from Ryal Academy of Art, Bath, 11.30-5pm. Tues to Sat, closed Sun & Mon 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends tomorrow).

Works by Kevin Harney and Andrew Holmes, and Handsworth from Inside: Photographs by Vanley Burke, Icon Gallery, 58-72 John Bright Street, Birmingham; Tues to Sat 10 to 6, closed Sun (ends tomorrow).

Landscape in Britain 1850-1950, City Museum and Art Gallery, Queen's Road, Bristol; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends tomorrow).

Etchings by Stephen Whittle and original prints from Ryal Academy of Art, Bath, 11.30-5pm. Tues to Sat, closed Sun & Mon 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends tomorrow).

Six Attitudes: Six Approaches to Painting, City Museum and Art Gallery, Priorygate, Peterborough; Tues to Sat, closed Sun & Mon (ends tomorrow).

Paintings by Aldridge Hardwick, Edward Mayor Gallery, 265 Gloucester Road, Sheffield; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends today).

Reading Guild of Artists annual exhibition, Museum and Art Gallery, Blagrove Street, Reading, Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4, Wed 10 to 7.30, closed Sat & Sun (ends today).

Works by Kevin Harney and Andrew Holmes, and Handsworth from Inside: Photographs by Vanley Burke, Icon Gallery, 58-72 John Bright Street, Birmingham; Tues to Sat 10 to 6, closed Sun (ends tomorrow).

Two-track policy, page 6
Letters, page 15

The Discovery of Persia, by J. Calder, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 11.

Unholy Egypt: Oxford's Debt to Flinders Petrie, by Helen Whitehouse, Ruskin Lecture Theatre, Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street, Oxford, 5.

Music: Belfast Promenade Concerts, Ulster Hall, Bedford Street, Belfast, 7.30 (from today until June 11). Organ recital, Rochester Cathedral, 12.45.

Oban Festival of Music: piano recital by Iris Lovelidge, St John's Cathedral, Oban, 8.15.

Top films

Top box-office films in London

1 (T) Totcie

2 (T) Local Hero

3 (S) Sophia's Choices

4 (C) Sunday the 13th Part II

5 (C) The Godfather

6 (C) Educating Rita

7 (C) Heat and Dust

8 (S) Android

9 (T) The Sting II

10 (T) An Officer and a Gentleman

11 (C) The Top Five in the provinces

12 (C) Totcie

13 (C) The Dark Crystal

14 (C) Friday the 13th Part III

15 (C) Kung Fu

16 (C) Local Hero

Compiled by Screen International

17 (C) The Godfather

18 (C) Sunday the 13th Part II

19 (C) The Godfather

20 (C) Heat and Dust

21 (C) Educating Rita

22 (C) The Godfather

23 (C) Totcie

24 (C) The Dark Crystal

25 (C) Friday the 13th Part III

26 (C) Kung Fu

27 (C) Local Hero

28 (C) Totcie

29 (C) The Godfather

30 (C) Sunday the 13th Part II

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